

Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Tokyo To Push G-7 Nations To Stem Yen's Rise OW1308094993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0943 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Vice Finance Minister Jiro Saito reiterated Friday [13 August] that Japan will further urge other Group of Seven (G-7) nations to take "appropriate measures" to halt the yen's "too fast" a rise against the dollar. An agreement by the G-7 economic powers in April to cooperate in stabilizing the currency market is still valid, Saito said at a regular press meeting, adding that he's not in a position to comment on concerted intervention.

The Bank of Japan's repeated intervention has so far failed to stem the yen's rise, with the currency hitting a record 101-yen level in intraday Tokyo trading Friday.

Expressing concern over the wild fluctuations, Saito criticized the recent speculative moves that ignore economic fundamentals. Noting that the yen's rise stems from speculation over Japan's trade surplus and future European rate cuts, Saito stressed Japan's efforts by saying "there's no big perception gap between Japan and the United States over the need to expand domestic demand to reduce Japan's trade surplus."

Concerning the issue of a possible discount rate cut, he said he cannot touch on the matter as it is in the hands of the Bank of Japan.

He said the Japanese economy is unlikely to fall into a "double-dip recession," citing some favorable consumption indicators. He was addressing recent comments by members of the new cabinet that the economy has not yet hit bottom as maintained by the former government.

EPA Official Expresses Concern

OW1308094793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—The vice minister of Japan's Economic Planning Agency (EPA) expressed concern Friday [13 August] that the yen's surge on the foreign exchange market could slow the nation's economic recovery. Tsutomu Tanaka also told reporters that Japan is hoping European monetary authorities will work harder to stabilize the volatile foreign exchange market.

The U.S. dollar temporarily plunged to the 101 yen range on the Tokyo foreign exchange market earlier Friday.

Tanaka also said working-level officials at his agency are giving favorable consideration to EPA Director General Manae Kubota's call for utility rate cuts, despite objections raised by other cabinet members.

Kubota told a cabinet meeting earlier Friday that electric power and gas companies should reduce their rates to pass gains from the yen's rise on to consumers. The coalition cabinet was mixed on the proposal, government officials said.

The utility companies, dependent on imported crude oil for their operations, have seen their production cost decrease due to a surge in the foreign exchange value of the yen.

Hosokawa Concerned About Destabilization

OW1308014093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0114 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa expressed concern Friday about the unabated strength in the yen's value against the dollar. Hosokawa said he fears that the yen's rapid rise could destabilize the exchange market. The prime minister made the comment to reporters in reference to the dollar's slip to yet another global low in Tokyo on Friday morning.

The U.S. currency hit global lows in Tokyo, London and New York both Wednesday and Thursday, under speculative pressure. Dealing was tied to confusion about the European monetary situation and Japan's huge trade surplus.

The greenback traded at 102.76 yen at one point in mid-morning Tokyo trading after sinking below 103 yen for the first time in New York on Thursday.

Cabinet To Discuss Exchange Rate Effects 19 Aug

OW1308021993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0206 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Cabinet members will meet next Thursday [19 August] to discuss the state of the nation's economy, including the effect of the yen's rise against the dollar, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said Friday. Fujii, speaking at a news conference after the Cabinet gathered in the morning, described the renewed exchange rate volatility as a "highly significant situation." He said the government will cooperate with other Group of Seven (G-7) members in an effort to achieve stability in the market.

The yen continued to surge against the dollar on Friday morning, temporarily reaching a high of 102.80 yen in Tokyo soon after the opening.

Fujii said that he and the foreign minister as well as Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa will attend the August 19 meeting. He did not elaborate on the nature of the conference, merely saying that the participants will try to consolidate their views on the present state of Japan's economy.

Fujii, referring to the virtual "bottoming out" declaration by the previous government, said "reality is not proceeding as such." He ruled out the possibility of a double-dip recession. But he said there are no encouraging figures, except that the slowdown may have touched its bedrock levels.

With regard to the framework for the fiscal 1994 draft budget approved by the Cabinet Friday, Fujii said the coalition government will do its best to restructure stubborn customs that developed under nearly four decades of Liberal Democratic Party rule.

"It will be difficult, but that's what we have agreed to do and I think it is possible," he said.

Farm Minister Defends Request To Curb Beef Imports

OW1308055893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0528 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—New farm Minister Eijiro Hata on Friday [13 August] defended his ministry's request to major trading houses to curb imports of beef from two main suppliers. Hata, minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, told a news conference after the day's cabinet meeting that the move is not inconsistent with the consumer-oriented policy advocated by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's government.

Hata, saying the ministry took the action to aid consumers, noted that beef imports have leaped around 30 percent over last year.

The farm ministry's request to curb imports of American and Australian beef came out of perception that excessive imports since the beef market was liberalized in 1991 have undermined the stability of the domestic market.

Hirofumi Ueno, director of the ministry's Secretariat, also said the decision was taken in the interests of consumers.

"The international demand-supply balance of beef has been affected by some artificial factors recently. This would adversely affect domestic production of beef, which in turn would cause problems for consumers," he said.

Hata To Express Remorse for War at Yasukuni Shrine

OW1308034393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0330 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata indicated Friday [13 August] he will visit the controversial Yasukuni Shrine commemorating Japan's war dead on August 15, the 48th anniversary of Japan's surrender, but not in his official capacity. Hata, who concurrently serves as deputy prime minister, said he would use the visit to reflect on Japan's wartime actions and to reaffirm his commitment to a peaceful course for Japan in future.

He stressed in a news conference that he would make the visit as a private citizen, saying to do otherwise might create a negative impression overseas. Hata, who visits the shrine frequently throughout the year, said he will consider whether to visit again on August 15 in light of the fact he belongs to a parliamentary group set up to promote such visits. He noted that he also visited the shrine during previous stints as a Cabinet minister.

Pressed to be more explicit on his intentions this time, he tersely replied, "I am not going to report on every single thing I do in my personal capacity as regards my beliefs and actions."

He said that aside from the question of how he pursues his own religious creed, his visits to the shrine entail reflecting on the fact that war wrought so many victims and bereavement in Japan, as well as in other countries. Hata lamented that such visits are misunderstood by some countries as worshiping those responsible for starting the war.

The Yasukuni Shrine is dedicated to Japan's 2.5 million war dead. In 1985, then Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone paid an official visit to the shrine, triggering an uproar overseas.

The shrine became the center of controversy when it was discovered that World War II leaders, including Gen. Hideki Tojo, were secretly enshrined there in 1978. Fourteen of those secretly enshrined were convicted as Class-A war criminals by an international tribunal after the end of the war.

Hata said he would not visit the shrine if he were just a "common salaried worker." But he said he considers it his responsibility as a parliamentarian to do so, reflecting on Japan's actions and praying for strength to fulfill peaceful convictions.

"I am a person who has, to this very day, acted with remorse for (Japan's) having inflicted harm on other countries and with the firm conviction that war must never be waged again," he said.

Hosokawa Will Not Visit

OW1308095493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0913 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Excerpts] Kagoshima, Aug. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Friday [13 August] he will not visit Tokyo's Yasukuni shrine commemorating Japanese war dead on August 15, the 48 anniversary of Japan's surrender at the end of World War II. He made the remark at a press conference in Kagoshima where he was visiting areas damaged by heavy rain.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura also said he will not visit the shrine on the date. [passage omitted]

Also Friday, three cabinet ministers said at separate news conferences that they will visit the shrine in unofficial capacities on August 15. They are Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii, International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai and Defense Agency Director General Keisuke Nakanishi. All three are members of Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), a breakaway party from the Liberal Democratic Party that governed for 38 years.

Eijiro Hata, the agricultural, forestry and fisheries minister, said earlier he will pay an official visit to Yasukuni. He is also a Shinseito legislator. [passage omitted]

Abe Criticizes Premier's War Comments

OW1208143693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1427 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 KYODO—The newly appointed parliamentary Vice Minister at the Education Ministry, Motoo Abe, on Thursday [12 August] implicitly criticized Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa for remarks he made describing Japan's actions in World War II as aggression.

"Calling this war bad does not take account of an historical view (of what happened)," Abe said at a press conference following his appointment the same day.

"Japan has committed mistakes, but in world affairs Japan has also experienced being driven into a corner," said Abe, who is a member of the centrist Democratic Socialist Party.

At his inaugural new conference on Tuesday, Hosokawa was asked by a reporter to describe his perceptions of the war. The premier said "I perceive it as a war of aggression. It was a bad war," though he qualified this as a personal view.

Abe said the United States and Britain were equally responsible for the Pacific war. "I cannot declare we lead a war to invade the world like the German Nazis," Abe said, explaining his evaluation of Japan's role in the war.

A former senior Finance Ministry bureaucrat, the 62year-old Abe was elected to the House of Councillors for the third time in the July general election.

Abe's comment seems to indicate that the new coalition of seven parties and one parliamentary group is still a long way from reaching a consensus on Japan's war responsibilities. Government sources said Wednesday the government is considering a Diet resolution to formally apologize for the war Japan waged against other Asian countries in the 1930's and World War II.

Justice Minister Praises Hosokawa

OW1308060593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0548 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Justice Minister Akira Mikazuki on Friday [13 August] characterized as "courageous" Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's remark that Japan conducted "a war of aggression" in World War II. With tears welling up in his eyes, the 72-year-old minister, who was a soldier in the wartime Imperial Army, told a news conference at his ministry, "the prime minister made a courageous remark."

He was commenting on Hosokawa's remark at a news conference on Tuesday in which he said, "I perceive it as a war of aggression. It was a wrong war."

Mikazuki was conscripted into the wartime military when he was majoring in law at the Imperial University of Tokyo, a predecessor of the current University of Tokyo, where he served as the head of the law department. He recalled classmates who died as Navy pilots in "kamikaze" suicide attack planes and said, "I feel upset if someone harbors perceptions that my classmates willingly cooperated with the war of aggression.

"I do not believe that the war was a righteous war, although (my classmates) were serious," he said.

He expressed concern about the government's financial capability to pay war reparations to the victims of Japan's wartime aggression. He said, "although I, as a lawyer, believe acknowledging war guilt would lead to the reparation issue being raised, I wonder whether the national treasury would be able to shoulder the cost."

"I think the prime minister made the remark, while being aware of this (linkage)," he said. Mikazuki, now a professor emeritus of law at the University of Tokyo, is one of the two nonpoliticians who joined the Hosokawa Cabinet.

The other one, Education Minister Ryoko Akamatsu, told a separate news conference she would not admonish Vice Education Minister Motoo Abe for remarks on the war.

Akamatsu said, "I heard (Abe) expressed his personal views," rather than expressing the official position of the government.

She was commenting on Abe's remark at the previous day's news conference that Japan's aggression cannot be called "aggression with the same meaning as that of Nazi Germany," which he said waged a war with the intention of "conquering the whole world."

Abe, a House of Representatives legislator for the Democratic Socialist Party, also said, "to merely say Japan committed wrongdoing is tantamount to lacking an understanding of history."

Akamatsu, a former ambassador to Uruguay, also told reporters, "my perception (of the war) is very close to that of the prime minister."

Health and Welfare Minister Keigo Ouchi told a separate news conference, "although it is undeniable that (Japan's wartime actions) carried the aspects of aggression, various analysis can be offered about the background under which Japan was dragged into that war." He said the government should not enter into a wholesale review of existing treaties and arrangements, although it is acceptable to raise the issue of war responsibility.

Successive governments of the Liberal Democratic Party have taken the position that the issue of war reparations has been settled by concluding treaties with the governments of Asian neighboring countries invaded by the wartime Japanese army.

Labor Minister Chikara Sakaguchi told reporters, "although (people) tend to raise the war reparation issue quickly, it has to be primarily dealt with as an issue of heart."

Hosokawa Not Considering Review of War Reparation Issue

OW1308114193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1041 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa does not plan to change Japan's stance that the nation has met its obligations for World War II reparations, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said Friday [13 August]. The comment may dampen the hopes of some foreign victims of Japan's wartime aggression who are waiting to see if the new government will take a more generous view toward compensating individual victims.

Hosokawa's unusually frank admission that Japan was wrong to wage a war of aggression in World War II has no direct bearing on the compensation issue, chief government spokesman Takemura told a news conference.

"Prime Minister Hosokawa is not considering reviewing Japan's stand on reparations," he said.

Takemura said the seven-party coalition intends to uphold the position held by the previous Liberal Democratic Party government, which had maintained that Japan has fulfilled its war reparations requirements for all countries except North Korea via government-level agreements. But Takemura declined to completely rule out the possibility of some sort of "political" action designed to meet the recent wave of demands from aging war victims across Asia.

In private, some government officials have suggested establishing a fund for payments to "comfort women" who were forced to provide sex to Japanese soldiers during and before the war.

In a related move, a group of Hong Kong Chinese filed suit against the Japanese Government earlier in the day seeking 770 million yen in compensation for military war currency which became worthless after the war.

Foreign Minister Teutomu Hata, who is concurrently deputy prime minister, told reporters Hosokawa basically exressed the same sentiment as past prime ministers, only this time the statement was made with

"extreme frankness." He said it has been common practice for politicians, when confronted by the assertion Japan waged a war of aggression, to say that such an observation "cannot be denied."

Hata added that in his position as foreign minister he does not dispute that observation. But considering the course of events prior to World War II, there is room for debate about how to describe what began and at what point in history.

IRNA Reports Hashimoto Remarks on Defense LD1208133893 Tehran IRNA in English 1253 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 12, IRNA—A leading Japanese political figure Wednesday underscored Iran's vital role in the region and stressed that further attention should be focused on Tehran.

Ryutaro Hashimoto made the remark in a meeting with Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia and Pacific Affairs Ala-ed-din Borujerdi in Tokyo yesterday. Hashimoto, head of the policy making committee of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), stressed that it was Iran's legitimate right to beef up its defence potentials.

The Japanese official noted that exhaustion [words indistinct] of Iran's military capacity in the course of the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran war and the fact its neighbors being equipped with modern weaponry urged Iran to build-up its military.

Meanwhile, Borujerdi underscored Tehran's willingness to expand bilateral relations with Japan and called for further exchange of views among officials of the two countries.

Borujerdi arrived in Tokyo Tuesday.

1.95%-Increase Ceiling Set for 1994 Defense Budget

OW1208141593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1344 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 KYODO—The Finance Ministry has agreed with the Defense Agency to set the ceiling on budget requests for defense spending in fiscal 1994 at 4,731 billion yen, limiting its year-on-year growth to the lowest in more than three decades, government sources said Thursday [12 August]. The ceiling on defense budget requests for the fiscal year starting on April 1, 1994, was set at 1.95 percent higher than the original budget for the current fiscal year, the smallest since fiscal 1961, when the Finance Ministry introduced the ceiling system for budget compilation. For the fiscal 1993 budget, the ceiling was set at 3.6 percent higher than the previous year's initial budget.

The Finance Ministry, which had originally wanted no growth in the ceiling, faced tough negotiations with the defense agency which demanded at least a 3 percent increase.

The sources said the Finance Ministry won defense authorities over by pointing to the tight fiscal situation due to dwindling tax revenues. The sources said the Finance Ministry had believed the recent upswing of the yen against the dollar would sufficiently reduce the yen-denominated prices of U.S.-made weapons that Japan buys to offset an increase in personnel costs and allow the ministry to impose a no-growth ceiling on defense budget requests.

Banks Reduce Overseas Assets

OW1308021893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0158 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] London, Aug. 13 KYODO—The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Friday [13 August] that the outstanding balance of assets held overseas by Japanese banks stood at 1,660.3 billion dollars at the end of March, 1993, down 17.4 billion dollars from the previous quarter.

Japanese banks apparently scaled down transactions with overseas banks by the end of March, the deadline for BIS's capital-to-asset requirement.

Under the rules set by the BIS, internationally active Japanese banks are required to have capital equivalent to 8 percent of their risk-weighted assets, or their outstanding loans and investment.

Worldwide assets held by international banks of industrial powers outside their borders shrank 14 billion dollars in late March from a year ago to 6,242.6 billion dollars, the Basel-based bank said.

Poll: Consumers Not Feeling Benefit of High Yen OW1208132693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1055 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 KYODO—Less than half of Japanese consumers polled feel that the yen's sharp appreciation has helped push down prices of imported goods, a government survey showed Thursday [12 August]. The survey by the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said 43.9 percent of those surveyed said the higher yen has resulted in lower imported goods prices. The study covered 4,061 consumers who were asked about the high yen's benefits in questionnaires from early may to early June, of whom 96.7 percent responded.

Bolstered by Japan's huge trade surplus and favored as a safe haven currency against roller-coaster European currencies, the yen has gained around 17 percent against the U.S. dollar so far this year. More than 40 percent of the pollees said imported goods sales at supermarkets, department stores and discount stores have increased in recent months as a result of the yen's rise.

Beef was the imported item most pollees, some 36.0 percent, said they bought at high yen-related sales, followed by fruits, at 32.0 percent, and liquor, at 15.5 percent. Cosmetics, shoes and furniture are among the items the respondents said appear not to have been discounted despite the yen's appreciation.

The study also found 56.3 percent of the pollees hope for discount prices on everyday goods rather than on luxury goods.

Utility Industry Resists Pressure for Rate Cuts
OW1308060293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0532 GMT
13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—Electricity and gas utilities have reacted sharply to government pressure to cut rates as a way of passing foreign exchange gains on to the consumer, industry sources said Friday. The sources said electric and gas suppliers are not planning to cut rates because of unfavorable business results caused by an unusually cool summer and a heavy capital investment burden.

New Economic Planning Agency Director General Manae Kubota called for rate cuts, saying "exchange profits from the yen's rise are steadily occurring and the government should take the responsibility in such issues in the energy fields."

The industry sources claimed prices of imported crude oil and natural gas have increased, causing exchange losses for utilities. Exchange gains for the year will be negligible, or about the "worth a cup of coffee," one source said.

Trade Ministry Official Rejects Cut

OW1308091393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—A senior Trade Ministry official on Friday [13 August] flatly rejected calls for reductions in gas and electricity rates to return currency-exchange profits to customers. The revision of utility charges rests with the Trade Ministry, and to avoid confusion other ministries and agencies shouldn't touch on the issue, the official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] said, requesting anonymity. He reiterated his ministry's view that the industries have not yet amassed exchange profits large enough to warrant cuts in their rates.

Trade Minister Hiroshi Kumagai said at an earlier regular press meeting that he is opposed to the method of returning profits, even in small amounts.

Separately, Manae Kubota, director general of the Economic Planning Agency, told reporters the rates must be reduced as a matter of government responsibility in such monopolized fields.

Touching on the yen's rise to the record 101-yen level to the dollar, the MITI official criticized speculation-led movements that ignore economic fundamentals.

As for the framework for the fiscal 1994 draft budget, decided by the cabinet earlier in the day, he welcomed it as offering "flexibility," particularly for new social infrastructure projects.

In setting budget ceilings, the government increased investment spending by 5 percent while scrapping such special items as housing-focused outlays in a bid to give a freer hand in such areas.

Poll Shows Support High for Hosokowa Cabinet OW1308082293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0809 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYCDO—The cabinet of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa enjoys a popular support rating of 75.7 percent, a record among postwar governments, according to a KYODO NEWS SERVICE poll released Friday [13 August]. But a similar proportion of pollees regarded Hosokawa's new cabinet as a transitional government that would not last long, with 23.5 percent giving it until the end of the year and another 50.4 percent not expecting it to stay in power beyond June next year, when a regular Diet session comes to a close.

The support ratio for the cabinet, gleaned from seven parties and people from outside politics, eclipsed the previous high of 63 percent for former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in a 1990 KYODO poll. Only 12.7 percent of the respondents said they disapprove of Hosokawa's government.

According to the survey, 55.5 percent said they perceive the 55-year-old premier as "clean." Twenty-nine percent said he is an able politician.

KYODO conducted the nationwide telephone survey Tuesday and Wednesday of 1,000 people aged 20 and older selected at random from telephone directories. Of the pollees, 513 were women.

Asked why they back the cabinet, 42.5 percent of supporters said they believe Hosokawa can reform a society ruled until last week by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) for 38 years.

Thirty-eight percent of supporters said they are pinning their hopes on Hosokawa to clean up corruption. However, 34.8 percent said they are apprehensive about incorrect policies he may implement.

Only 23.4 percent of respondents said the Hosokawa cabinet would remain in power beyond next June.

The poll found the cabinet enjoys support rates of more than 70 percent among all age groups and occupations, drawing especially strong support from housewives (79 percent) and students (84 percent).

Among those not backing the cabinet, 44.1 percent cited the fragility of the coalition, 23.6 percent said Hosokawa cannot clean up corruption and 15 percent said he could not bring about a major change to society.

On what changes the cabinet should make, 54.5 percent said wiping out corrupt politics, 30.1 percent an improvement in Japan's social welfare system, and 29.9 percent bolstering the sluggish economy. Only 19.4 percent said they want the cabinet to reform the electoral system.

Both the government and the LLP say replacing the multiseat system with a combination of single-seat districts and proportional representation could be an the answer to cleaning up corruption.

Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) co-leader Ichiro Ozawa's reported key role in molding the coalition was considered problematic by 42.5 percent because he has not cleared up suspicions of being involved in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal. Another 35.5 percent said they regard his role as inevitable given Hosokawa's inexperience, and 16.3 percent said it is a matter of course in view of Ozawa's real power.

Meanwhile, the poll found a majority of respondents has expectations that new LDP President Yohei Kono may reform the party. The poll found 48.8 percent believing Kono could reform the LDP "to some extent," while 6.3 percent said the long-time critic of LDP money politics would fundamentally change the party. However, 13.5 percent said the LDP would not be able to change its mentality.

On backing for political parties, the biggest chunk of pollees—26 percent—said they did not support any. The LDP had the most support of any with 21.6 percent, 15.0 percent backed Shinseito, an LDP breakaway, 11.8 percent the Japan New Party and 9.8 percent the Social Democratic Party [of Japan], which suffered a crushing setback in the July general election. The Buddhist-backed Komeito was supported by 5.2 percent, the Japanese Communist Party 2.8 percent, Sakigake, another LDP splinter, 2.4 percent, and the Democratic Socialist Party 1.6 percent.

General Expenditures Set at 3.8% Growth for FY94

OW1308032593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0220 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—The Japanese Government decided Friday [13 August] on a growth of 3.8 percent for the ceiling on general operating expenditures for its fiscal 1994 budget, limiting the expansion to the lowest since the 3.0 percent roof in fiscal 1990. The

ceiling, or framework for formulating a draft budget, was endorsed at a morning cabinet meeting.

General operating expenditures—the core budget for defense, public works and other key spendings that exclude debt servicing costs and grants to local governments—are to total some 41.45 trillion yen.

Of the core spendings, however, the government maintained a relatively high growth of 5.0 percent to about 9.14 trillion yen for investment spending, underscoring an active stance taken by the new coalition cabinet of prime minister Morihiro Hosokawa to shore up the weak economy.

The ceiling on official development assistance is set at a relatively high growth of 7.9 percent, totaling about 1.02 trillion yen. The lid on defense spending was set at 1.95 percent, the lowest since the ceiling method was adopted in 1961, to some 900 billion yen.

Ministries and agencies will prepare their budget requests based on the ceiling by the end of this month, and if everything goes smoothly, the cabinet will endorse the draft budget in late December.

A finance ministry official, briefing reporters, said the ceiling is designed to avoid issuing deficit-covering bonds under the government's austere budget policy through a 5 percent increase in investment spending and a 10 percent cut in current expenditures. No bond-financing is required for investment spending.

The ministry took a tough stance during negotiations with other ministries and agencies in the wake of a revenue shortfall worth some 1.5 trillion yen incurred in fiscal 1992.

The government coffers must cover part of the shortfall with the current expenditures in fiscal 1994, while avoiding issuance of deficit-financing bonds, the official said.

Reflecting the new cabinet's policy for a flexible budget framework primarily on public-works outlays, the government scrapped three special items, including livingrelated spending in a bid to give a "free hand" in those areas, the official said.

He said the cabinet urged each ministry and agency to thoroughly review spending for "efficient and rational" selection of priority areas primarily to steadily improve the social infrastructure and the quality of living.

Yamahana: Coalition Aims for Reform Plan Accord

OW1308073293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0650 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 13 KYODO—The ruling coalition will strive to narrow down differences over electoral changes and reach an accord on the shape of political reform plans next Thursday [19 August], Political

Reform Minister Sadao Yamahana said Friday. Yamahana, also chairman of the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ], made the remark at a news conference held after a cabinet meeting.

He spoke of the need to speed up negotiations within the seven-party alliance that installed the administration of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Yamahana's comments coincided with Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata's remark that he supports setting for early next week a deadline for reaching a coalition agreement on political reform, the common cause behind the seven parties' united front that ended the 38-year-rule by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Hata is the leader of Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), an LDP splinter party that is at the core of the seven-party coalition.

The seven parties within the coalition government have agreed to replace the current multiseat electoral system for House of Representatives elections with a system combining single-seat constituencies with proportional representation. The parties have not, however, reconciled differences over details of the plan.

Hosokawa indicted he will resign if his promise to enact political reform bills within the year fails. His immediate LDP predecssors—Toshiki Kaifu and Kiichi Miyazawa—were forced to resign after they failed to push through political reform bills to clean up political corruption.

Hosokawa's Japan New Party and its ally Sakigake (Harbinger) have proposed appropriating 250 seats to single-seat electoral districts and the remaining 250 seats for selection through proportional representation. While the SDPJ supports the proposal, Shinseito and Komeito are seeking a ratio of 300 single-seat districts to 200 seats selected by proportional representation with a single vote cast by each voter. Under the SDPJ plan, voters would cast two votes—one for an individual candidate in the voter's single-seat constituency and another for a party in a national district.

The Democratic Socialist Party has proposed a lower house electoral system of 300 seats from single-seat constituencies and 200 by proportional representation, with each voter casting two votes.

Home Affairs Minister Kanju Sato, speaking at a news conference, said he does not necessarily think the one-vote system would violate constitutional voting rights.

Labor Minister Chikara Sakaguchi said in a separate news conference that he personally favors a one-vote system.

Satsuki Eda, director general of the Science and Technology Agency, expressed confidence that the coalition partners can "definitely" coordinate and formulate political reform plans. Eda heads the United Social Democratic Party.

Economic Slump Affects Information Service Industry

OW1208132493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1018 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 KYODO—Leasing contracts involving information equipment in 1992 declined from the preceding year, posting the first year-to-year fall since 1973, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry reported Thursday [12 August]. The ministry also said sales by the information service industry, covering computer software, recorded a moderate growth rate, reflecting the economic slump.

The value of overall leasing contracts dipped 2.3 percent from 1991 to 8,173.7 billion yen, with those involving computer and information-related equipment, which account for 42.0 percent of the total, declining 2.4 percent, the ministry said.

Turnover of the information service, which recorded annual growth of more than 30 percent in recent years, grew by an anemic 1.3 percent to 7,127.8 billion yen.

Sales of information services to financial and insurance firms grew only 1.4 percent while those to the manufacturing and mining industries gained 2.5 percent, the ministry said.

Transactions by credit card agencies totaled 17,209.6 billion yen, up 9.5 percent over the year before but down from 18.3 percent growth reported in the previous year, the ministry said.

The ministry said sales by advertising agencies dropped 2.1 percent to 6,782.3 billion yen, for the first-ever yearly decline, reflecting a decrease in orders from automobile and real estate industries.

Population Growth Rate Hit Record Low in 1992 OW1208115493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1047 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 12 KYODO—Japan's population reached 123.96 million people in fiscal 1992 with its growth rate setting an all-time low of 0.3 percent, the Home Affairs Ministry said Thursday [12 August]. Likewise, the average household was smaller than ever before, consisting of only 2.88 people, according to the ministry's survey on population, households, and population movements in the year ended March 31.

The survey is based on prefectural citizens registers, and unlike a national census does not cover foreign residents in Japan.

Some 50.8 percent of the population were females representing an increase of 0.01 percentage point over fiscal 1991, the survey said.

The influx to the three big conurbations—Tokyo, Nagoya and the Kansai district with Osaka at its center—has slowed down, while rural prefectures registered

an increase in inhabitants. However, the number of prefectures where the number of deaths exceeded that of births leading to a "natural decrease" rose from one to four prefectures in fiscal 1992, the survey said.

Reflecting Japan's aging society, the number of deaths increased sharply to about 880,000. Coupled with a drop in births to some 1.21 million after a slight increase in fiscal 1991 both trends add up to the low population growth rate, the survey said.

Population increased in 31 prefectures and dropped in 16 prefectures across the nation. Prefectures located in the commuter belts of the big conurbations gained most from domestic migration.

The forerunner among the gaining prefectures was Saitama, northwest of Tokyo, for the seventh year in a row. It was followed by Chiba, Nara, Shiga, Ibaraki, and Kanagawa prefectures.

In contrast, Tokyo was ranked first among prefectures experiencing a "social decrease" resulting from more people moving to cheaper housing outside the capital. Tokyo lost about 50,000 inhabitants due to social decrease in fiscal 1992.

A natural population decrease due to the exodus of the younger generation of childbearing age was registered in Kochi, Shimane, Yamaguchi and Akita Prefectures. Ministry officials said they expect this trend to continue in rural areas.

Okinawa Prefecture has seen an opposite development with the country's highest natural growth rate of 0.78 percent.

Due to the reduced influx to the 11 prefectures in the three conurbations, which a'l have lost population, the non-urban prefectures have recovered to a level of five or six years earlier.

Although non-urban prefectures are still losing population to urban prefectures, urbanization has slowed down. Some 48.72 percent of all Japanese were living in urban prefectures in fiscal 1992, while 51.28 percent lived in the countryside.

During the latest one-year period, the number of house-holds increased by 1.46 percent to 43.08 million. House-holds in Yamagata Prefecture were the largest with 3.58 people, followed by Fukui Prefecture with 3.5 people and Toyama Prefecture with 3.47 household members.

Tokyo households, with an average 2.33 members, were the smallest nationwide. In the capital the number of households of elderly couples and single households were highest.

Tokyo Allegedly Planned To Abandon WWII POW's

OW1208131093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 12 KYODO—Japan's military leaders in Manchuria at the close of World War II appeared ready to abandon some 1.8 million Japanese civilians and soldiers to the Soviets, a report found in Russian military archives suggested Thursday [12 August].

Dated August 26, 1945, the report from Imperial Headquarters Staff Officer Shigeharu Asaeda also indicates the leaders were ready to allow the Japanese to give up their citizenships and become "local residents" of Manchuria and Korea under Soviet control. The report, discovered in Russian Defense Ministry archives, renews speculation that Japanese leaders—in the chaotic days before Japan's surrender in August 1945—offered conscripted labor to the Soviet Union.

In July, researchers at the same archives found a letter, dated August 29, 1945, in which Kwantung [Kanto] Army leader Gen. Otozo Yamada appears to offer Japanese prisoners of war to the Soviet Red Army as a form of war compensation. The earlier letter was found by Rokuro Saito, head of the All-Japan Former Internees Association.

The Asaeda report appears to corroborate the Yamada letter, adding a subplot to the tale of 600,000 Japanese prisoners of war (POW's) who were sent to Siberia to construct railways and do other hard labor. Some 62,000 of the internees were either killed or died of disease.

But Asaeda, reached in Tokyo by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, denied that he wrote the report, although he admitted its contents are similar to a dispatch he sent following the Soviet Army's entry into the war on August 9, 1945. Asaeda charged that the report was a fabrication because it was not in his handwriting.

But he admitted he sent a document based on an Imperial Headquarters military order. He said the contents of the document were, "considering the reconstruction of the nation after the end of the war, the Kwantung Army leaders should consider leaving as many Japanese on the continent as possible."

"It is possible that the military and civilian Japanese who remain may change their citizenship," Asaeda quoted the document as saying.

He said the order may have been confiscated by the Soviet Army, adding that he alone dispatched the order, which did not represent the thinking of headquarters or the Japanese Government.

It has long been rumored that Japanese leaders, anxious to preserve the emperor system, anticipated Joseph Stalin would stridently demand that Emperor Hirohito assume responsibility for the war. Entering cease-fire negotiations with Moscow, the Japanese side appeared ready to offer Japanese labor as an appeasement to the Soviet dictator as a "compensation."

In July 1945, former Prime Minister Fumimaro Konoe was ordered by the emperor, posthumously renamed Emperor Showa, to initiate the peace process with the Soviets. Konoe drew up an outline for negotiations that included plans to preserve the emperor system, but never had the chance to meet directly with Stalin.

One section of the Asaeda report suggested that in view of the food, economic and ideological chaos in Japan following the war, Japanese soldiers and civilians on the Asian mainland "will become local residents in Manchuria or Korea under the protection of the Soviet Union." The document further recommended that there would be "no impediment for the local (Japanese) residents of Manchuria and Korea to relinquish their citizenship."

Same said the Soviet Union still bears the basic responsibility for the Siberian internment and the deaths of the Japanese POW's.

"It cannot be denied, however, that Stalin's thinking in forcing the internment was somewhat influenced by the offer of the Japanese military," Saito said.

In the letter Saito discovered in July, Yamada asked the commander of the Soviet Far Eastern forces to use the prisoners of war until they would return to Japan. Saito speculated then that the offer may have prompted the Soviet Union to think that Japan would not be opposed to transferring the internees to Siberia.

In July, former officers in the Kwantung Army denied that any such offer had been made by Yamada.

Saito and the former internees association have been demanding the Japanese Government pay compensation to the former POW's for their time in Siberia in accordance with international law.

North Korea

Reportage on Preparations for Pannational Rally

Paper Denounces South's Stance

SK1208115693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 12 Aug 93

["Unpardonable Criminal Act Against Reunification Festival"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities' attempt to frustrate a Seoul reunification festival oriented toward national unity is an unjustifiable and unpardonable, anti-national, anti-reunification criminal act, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The Fourth Pannational Rally (PNR) reflects the historical flow of the Korean people who have waged an unremitting struggle to reunify the country since the division of the country and the nation, the article says, and goes on:

The Korean nation's reunification sentiments are rising to a higher tide with the PNR just around the corner. The minds of the fellow countrymen in the North and the South and abroad are already on the plaza of the grand reunification festival.

To frustrate the common reunification festival of the nation means a heinous replica of the preceding "sixth republic's" dictatorship; it is a product of the policy of North-South confrontation.

The South Korean authorities have dampened the people's sentiments for national unity by coercive means and suppressed the pro-reunification patriotic forces at the point of the bayonet. And they are now blocking the successful opening of the PNR by mobilizing even the "Security Planning Board", the den of fascists and intelligence plot-breeders.

The three rounds of the PNR held so far were in the real sense of the word rendezvous for promoting national reconciliation and unity, transcending differences in ideology and idea, political view and religious belief. They were plazas of reunification dialogue for bringing together the reunification aspirations and will of the fellow countrymen.

By laying obstacles in the way of the PNR the South Korean rulers revealed of their own accord that their much-touted "civilian politics" is nothing but a deceptive slogan and that they are a group of traitors who do not want national unity and reunification like the dictators of the "Fifth and Sixth Republics" who pursued North-South confrontation and sought to prolong the national division.

The South Korean rulers must set out on the patriotic road of national unity and reunification with a reasonable thinking power, not on the criminal road of North-South confrontation and national division, and actively provide all conditions and conveniences for the fourth PNR so that it may be held successfully as a common festival of the nation.

Pack In-chun Urges South Support

SK1208225493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] The chairman of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnon] sent a telephone message to the South Korean minister of the unification board.

Paek In-chun, chairman of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon, sent a telephone message again on 12 August to Han Wan-sang, minister of the Unification Board of South Korea, urging South Korea to guarantee the passage through Panmunjom of 300 delegates of the North side, who will go to Seoul through Panmunjom on 13 August to participate in the Fourth Pannational Rally slated for 15 August as well as their personal safety. The telephone message reads:

I sent a telephone message to you on 7 August, requesting that you take measures to guarantee the passage through Panmunjom of the 300 delegates of our side to the Fourth Pannational Rally to be held in Seoul on 15 August and guarantee their personal safety. To my regret, however, I have received no answer from you as of today while the rally is drawing near.

Worse still, what concerns me is that your authorities have not withdrawn the policy of disallowing the holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally and are going to block the rally from the beginning. Your attitude greatly disappoints the 70 million compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas, who want a successful holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally.

The policy that disallows the holding of the pannational rally contradicts the national reconciliation and unity as well as runs counter to peace and peaceful reunification. Nothing can justify the policy.

Again we urge your authorities to pay attention to the compatriots' voice now, to allow the holding of the pannational rally in Seoul, and to immediately take necessary actions for our delegation to arrive in Seoul.

As I declared, the North side's delegation to the Fourth Pannational Rally will arrive at Pannaunjom at 1000 [0100 GMT] today [13 August]. I expect your positive [gungjongjok] answer.

Pomminnyon, Student Group Issue Communique

SK1308021193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Joint communique of the North Side Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification and the North Side Headquarters of the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification—read by announcer]

[Text] The North Side Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] and the North Side Headquarters of the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification [Pomchonghangnyon] have completed all preparations to participate in the Fourth Pannational Rally to be held in Seoul on 15 August.

In South Korea, as well, figures of all strata, including figures concerned of the Pomminnyon and the Pomchonghangnyon, who ardently desire to hold the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul, are now actively pushing ahead with preparations for the rally while smashing all sorts of obstruction maneuvers by splittists with the

patriotic will and firm determination to adorn the rally as a venue for great national unity and national reunification.

A few days ago, the Preparatory Committee for Great Festival of Youth and Students in the North, the South, and Overseas for Reunification under the the Korean Federation of University Student Councils [Hanchongnyon] expressed its ardent zeal to hold the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul without fail by sending an invitation letter to the North Side Headquarters of the Pomchonghangnyon.

Holding the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul is a joint promise that the North and overseas have reached after responding to and agreeing the proposal of the South Side headquarters' preparatory committee. At the same time, actively responding to the efforts to make the pannational rally to be held in Seoul a great joint national festival for reunification is precisely the duty and oblication of our fellow countrymen.

Proceeding from such a stand the North Side headquarters of the Pomminnyon and the Pomchonghangnyon will send to Panmunjom on 13 August delegates of the North Side Headquarters of the Pomminnyon and the Pomchonghangnyon who will participate in the Fourth Pannational Rally to be held in Seoul on 15 August. The delegation, headed by Paek In-chun, chairman of the North Side Headquarters of the Pomminnyon, is composed of delegates of the North Side Headquarters of the Pomminnyon and the Pomchonghangnyon and representatives from various circles—totaling 300.

Memebers of our North side delegation who are to go to Seoul, cherishing in their hearts the unanimous ardent desire of the people in the North for national reunification and their warm compatriotic love toward brothers in the South, will make all possible sincere efforts to splendidly hold the Fourth Pannational Rally as a great joint reunification festival of the 70 million fellow countrymen.

In this connection the South side authorities should take all necessary steps so that the North side delegation can head for Seoul through Panmunjom.

We think that if they really want national unity and national reunification the South Korean authorities should provide cooperation so that the Fourth Pannational Rally can be held smoothly and, thus, should show their reunification will through their practical acts at home and abroad.

[Dated] 12 August 1993, Pyongyang

KCNA Reports Joint Communique

SK1308045593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 13 Aug 93

["Joint Communique of North Side Headquarters of Pomminnyon and North Side Headquarters of Pomchonghangnyon"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—The North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the North side headquarters of the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghangnyon) issued a joint communique on August 12.

The communique says:

We have completed preparations for participation in the fourth Pannational Rally slated for August 15 in Seoul.

The holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul is a joint appointment which was initiated by the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side headquarters and agreed to by the North side and the overseas side. It is the duty and obligation of the fellow countrymen to take active part in the efforts to hold the forthcoming rally as a nation's common grand reunification festival, pulling through all difficulties.

The North side headquarters of Pomminnyon and the North side headquarters of Pomchonghangnyon will send 300 delegates of ooth headquarters and people of various strata with Paek In-chun, chairman of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon as the head to Panmunjom on August 13 for participation in the Fourth Pannational Rally.

Our North side delegation would make all sincere efforts to successfully hold the Fourth Pannational Rally as a grand common reunification festival of the 70 million Koreans.

The authorities of the South side should take all necessary measures for the North side delegation to go to Seoul through Panmunjom.

Delegation Arrives in Panmunjom

SK1308021993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0138 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Report from Panmunjom]

[Text] The North side delegation of the National Alliance of the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] and the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification [Pomchonghangnyon], which is led by North side Pomminnyon headquarters chairman Paek In-chun, arrived at Panmunjom at 1000 [0100 GMT] today after starting from Kaesong while receiving a warm send-off from the masses from various classes and strata. The delegation will go to Seoul to participate in the Fourth Pannational Rally and the third grand reunification festival of youths and students.

As has already been reported, the committee for establishment of the South side headquarters of the Pomminnyon organized the South side headquarters for promotion of the Fourth Pannational Rally and proposed the holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul and it invited delegates from the North and overseas to the Seoul rally.

In connection with this, the North side headquarters of the Pomminnyon and the Pomchonghangnyon decided to dispatch 300 delegates of our side, who will participate in the Fourth Pannational Rally and the third grand reunification festival of youths and students, to Seoul through Panmunjom and notified the South of its decision by letter.

On 7 and 12 August, the North side headquarters of the Pomminnyon requested that the South side's authorities take measures to guarantee the passage through Panmunjom of our side's delegates, who will go to Seoul to participate in the Fourth Pannational Rally, as well as their personal safety.

If the South Korean authorities have even a little wish for national reconciliation, unity, reunification, they must immediately guarantee [pojang] all convenience [pyonui] for our delegates to participate in the pannational rally in Seoul.

CPRF Denounces South for Blocking Rally

SK1308030093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2110 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Statement by the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF) issued in Pyongyang on 12 August—read by announcer]

[Text] Today all fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas cannot suppress resentment and indignation against the despicable [piyolhan] maneuvers of the South Korean authorities to obstruct the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul.

As has been reported, the South Korean prosecution office on 10 August branded the Fourth Pannational Rally as illegal and declared that judicial steps against all those who are involved, including Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, will be taken if the rally is held.

On the following day, the puppet police decided to essentially block the pannational rally and deployed about 20,000 police forces around Yonsei University, the designated venue of the rally, to block the rally. The police threatened and harassed that if the rally is held, police will be deployed on campus to break up the event and that they will arrest and punish those involved.

This is a malicious challenge to the aspirations of fellow countrymen for national unity and reunification and is fascist violence against the movement for democracy and reunification.

As everyone knows, all fellow countrymen today want unanimously to see the Fourth Pannational Rally and the Third Great Reunification Festival of Youth, Students and Compatriots in the North, the South and Overseas take place successfully as a common national reunification festival.

The pannational rally has been held every year since 1990 as a reunification festival on the occasion of the 15

August liberation anniversary. This rally was first proposed by the organizations of the national movement for democracy and reunification in South Korea, and reunification movement organizations in the North and overseas responded to the proposal. This rally is a plaza of reunification dialogue in which compatriots from all walks of life at home and abroad who want national reconciliation and unity broadly participate.

The preparatory committee for organizing, the South side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] proposed that this year's Fourth Pannational Rally be held in Seoul from 13 to 15 August, and until now has pushed ahead with preparations for the rally with sincerity and in earnest. This was an infinitely just act which renewed the confidence of all fellow countrymen for national reunification and gave them courage.

Nevertheless, not only did South Korean authorities oppose the holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul from the beginning, but also took the stance of blocking the rally at a bayonet point, and with the rally now imminent, they say it is illegal, that it must be blocked, and so on.

The South Korean authorities held a meeting of public security-related ministers, determined Pomminnyon as insurgents since officials of the South side of Pomminnyon proposed the rally, and branded its reunification movement as illegal by talking about manipulation behind-the-scenes by someone else.

Raising a preposterous claim that the pannational rally contradicts the spirit of the North-South agreement, they blocked the road of working-level delegates from our side who were heading for Seoul to attend the tripartite working-level talks of Pomminnyon officials from the North, the South and overseas to prepare for the successful rally. Now with the rally imminent, they adhere to despicable maneuvers in an attempt to frustrate the rally by mobilizing the prosecution, police, and other fascist suppressive forces and split and destroy the Pomminnyon organization.

The CPRF sternly condemns and denounces such acts by the South Korean authorities, branding them as an intolerable challenge to the aspirations and desire of 70 million fellow countrymen for reunification and as an unpardonable antinational and antireunification criminal act designed to block the vigorous step of the nation heading for reconciliation and unity.

The whole country is vigorously waging the reunification movement to achieve reunification in the '90's with great national unity by expressing full support for and response to the 10-point program of great national unity of the whole country. At this very time, the South Korean authorities are disturbing the nation's reunification movement. This cannot be justified with anything.

Pomminnyon is a unified pannational reunification movement organization of compatriots at home and abroad. Pomminnyon was organized under the purpose of achieving national reunification based on the three principles of national reunification which comprise the common national reunification program and by pooling together the strength and wisdom of the whole country.

The pannational rally sponsored by Pomminnyon is a great meeting of national reconciliation and unity, transcending differences in ideology, ideals, political views, and religions. Thus, it is clear to everyone that the rally is not intended to support or oppose only one particular side, as South Korean authorities slander and fabricate.

Furthermore, what should not be overlooked is the fact that the incumbent South Korean regime that claims to be a civilian government, oppresses the pannational rally in a more vicious manner than the Sixth Republic.

Behind the signboard of civilian politics, the South Korean rulers advocate reconciliation and reunification. In actuality, however, they further aggravated North-South relations with anti-North nuclear commotions and large-scale war exercise commotions under the pretext of suspicions of the North's so-called nuclear development. They have even driven North-South relations into a rigid stalemate [kyokpye sangtae], and intensified suppression of the reunification movement of youth, students, and people.

This illustrates that the incumbent South Korean regime is not a civilian government but an antireunification and antinational, splittist, fascist regime pursuing confrontation and division like the preceding Fifth and Sixth Republics.

All fellow countrymen are vigorously marching toward national unity and reunification by upholding the 10-point programs of great national unity of the whole country. At this time, if the South Korean ruling forces continue only to advance along the treacherous road of confrontation and division, they will be labelled as disgraceful national traitors and splittists.

South Korean authorities should look straight at the trend of the times and fellow countrymen's will for reunification and should act with discretion. Even now, they should stop the criminal maneuvers of blocking the Fourth Pannational Rally, immediately.

The CPRF sends ardent support and encouragement to officials of Pomminnyon, the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification, and patriotic figures from various social strata in South Korea, who are waging the arduous struggle to successful hold the Fourth Pannational Rally by rejecting vicious oppressive manuevers of the splittists. At the same time, the CPRF expresses its resolution to vigorously fight shoulder to shoulder with the South side's patriotic reunification figures to make the current rally a great common national reunification festival.

[Dated] 12 August 1993, Pyongyang

ROK Authorities 'Block' Delegation

SK1308033493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0230 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Report from Panmunjom]

[Text] The North delegation comprised of the National Alliance of the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] and the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification [Pomchonghangnyon], which will attend the Fourth Pannational Rally and Third Great Reunification Festival of Youth and Students is led by Paek In-chun, chairman of the North side head-quarters of Pomminnyon. It arrived at Panmunjom at 1000 [0100 GMT]. However, because of disturbance maneuvers of the South Korean authorities, it was unable to proceed on to Seoul.

The officials of the South side of Pomminnyon who were supposed to greet our side's delegation were not seen in the South side area of Panmunjom, but only armed guards are seen hanging around.

Our side's delegation again urged the South side to open the road to Seoul at Panmunjom and have been patiently waiting.

Through our side's liaison officials in the North-South Liaison Office at Panmunjom, our side's delegation informed the South side of the arrival of the delegation who will go to Seoul at Panmunjom and requested the South side urgently reply to the telephone messages sent on 7 and 11 August.

However, the South side's liaison officer merely stated that he is looking into the matter, and is dragging out the time.

Our side's liaison officer said that the South side's delay tactic is an unreasonable act to North-South relations, in particular, to North-South liaison relations, and that he regards the South side's delay tactic as an act of refusing passage through Panmunjom of our delegation. He will expose this act to the world.

At present our side's delegation and masses are continuously waging the struggle to go to Seoul with surging resentment and indignation against the South Korean authorities who blocked the path of the delegation.

KCNA Denounces South's 'Nonpermission' SK1308062293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445

SK1308062293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities on August 11 said that the "government cannot allow the Pannational Rally because the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) is an illegal organisation benefiting the enemy" and the "supreme prosecutor's office" on August 10 threatened that "all those involved would be

dealt with by law" in case they force the rally, branding the rally as "illegal", according to a report of radio No. 1 from Seoul.

It is as clear as noonday that, if the Pannational Rally is held with compatriots from the North, South and overseas in attendance, it will open an epochal phase in creating the atmosphere of national harmony and unity and achieving peace and peaceful Reunification of the country.

Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities have posted combat police more than 20,000 strong around Yonsei University in Seoul, the venue of the rally, declaring "nonpermission." This fully shows that the present South Korean "regime" is an anti-national, anti-reunification group which is little different from the military fascist dictatorial "regime" of the "sixth republic" which foiled the first, second and third Pannational Rallies.

The South Korean authorities are now crying that they "do not permit the Pannational Rally" because it "is orchestrated" by the North. But this is a nonsense not understandable to anyone.

The opening of the rally in Seoul was also put on the order of the day at the proposal of the organisations of movement for reunification and democracy including the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side headquarters of Pomminnyon on June 11.

The present ruling quarters of South Korea must not continue to lay obstacles to the vigorous reunification movement of the fellow countrymen but stop at once their criminal moves to foil the Pannational Rally.

Pomminnyon To Hold Rally in Pyongyang SK1308105393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—A notice of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) on the fourth Pan-national Rally [PNR] was published today.

According to the notice, the fourth PNR which was expected to be held in Seoul at the proposal of the South side's officials of Pomminnyon failed due to obstructions of the South Korean authorities, and the rally has to be held separately in the North and the South and abroad.

The North side headquarters of Pomminnyon decided to hold the North side's functions of the fourth PNR in Pyongyang.

It decided to conduct various reunification festival functions including the PNR, an enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghangnyon), a grand forum on the great unity of the whole nation and reunification of the country and a pan-national reunification concert on August 14 and 15.

Although the fourth PNR has to be held separately owing to a heinous challenge by the anti-reunification forces, it will powerfully demonstrate at home and abroad once again the fellow countrymen's ardent aspirations and will for reunification and greatly contribute to achieving national unity and accomplishing the cause of national reunification, the notice says.

Delegations Issue Joint Statement

SK1308112693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0413 GMT 13 Aug 93

("Joint statement" of the North side's delegations of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghangnyon), adopted at an emergency meeting held in Panmunjom on 13 August—read by Chong Tok-ki, member of the North side's Pomminnyon Central Committee]

[Text] With the ardent desire for the national reunification and the yearning of brothers and sisters in the South, the 300 delegates of the North side's Pomminnyon and Pomchonghangnyon arrived in Panmunjom today to attend the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul. The people, youth, and students in the North saw off our delegates when we departed for Panmunjom.

In Panmunjom, located near Seoul, yearning for the emotional moment when brothers and sisters in the North, South, and overseas embrace together, we repeatedly urged the South side's authorities to urgently allow us to go to the South. In spite of our just demand, the South Korean authorities have insisted on its measure of blocking us from going to the South.

This country is our country and our land. However, all of us cannot go to Seoul, the venue of the reunification festival where everyone is waiting for us. Thus, we cannot but express surging fury at the South Korean authorities.

The North side's delegations of the Pomminnyon and the Pomchonghangnyon brand the South Korean authorities, which prevent the Fourth Pannational Rally from being held in Seoul, as an unbearable betrayal of the 700 million fellow countrymen's desire for reunification and as an unpardonable antinational and antireunification crime. We sternly denounce them in the name of the nation.

The Fourth Pannational Rally came to be put on the agenda by the unanimous desire for reunification of the compatriots at home and abroad. Thus, the South Korean authorities' measures of blocking us from going to the South cannot be justified in any way.

To cover up their crimes, the South Korean authorities are raving that the pannational rally is an illegal rally to overthrow the system and a violent rally promoted by someone's initiative. This is nothing but an unreasonable sophistry.

The pannational rally is the rally for national unity, to put an end to the miserable situation—the fellow countrymen, even though they are one nation, have misunderstood and antagonized each other. In addition, the pannational rally is a peaceful national common reunification festival to expedite reunification by putting an end to the national division which has lasted for half a century.

The preparatory committee to form the South side's Pomminnyon headquarters, which sponsors the Seoul Fourth Pannational Rally, and other organizations for reunification and democracy, including the Korean Federation of University Student Council [Hanchongnyon], clearly announced that they would hold the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul as a peaceful rally.

This nonetheless, the South Korean authorities have opposed the pannational rally and the reunification festival of youth and students. Worse still, they have branded them as the illegal rallies to overthrow the system. This is the robbery act to justify their antireunification moves.

The South Korean authorities are raving that the North took the initiative in the pannational rally. This is also a far-fetched allegation.

It goes without saying that the pannational rally is a grand reunification festival, which has been initiated by the South Korean organizations for reunification and which has been supported in the North and overseas.

As for the Fourth Pannational Rally, a large number of the South Korean patriotic organizations for reunification—including the preparatory committee for forming the South side's Pomminnyon headquarters—resolved to hold the pannational rally in Seoul and formally asked their authorities to help hold the rally. They also asked the North and overseas sides to send 300 delegates, respectively, to the Fourth Pannational Rally.

All facts show that the South Korean authorities do not desire national unity and do not hesitate to tell a brazen-faced lie to cover up their crimes against reunification. The South Korean authorities are persistently blocking the 15 August grand festival for reunification. By so doing, they clearly demonstrate to the entire world that the propaganda—policy of breaking off the link with the military dictatorship and policy of promoting a nationwide reconciliation for reunification, which they have advertised since they came to power—was nothing but a cunning strategy to make a fool out of the nation. They also show to the entire world that they are the splittist groups against the nation.

Achieving reunification in the nineties through the united national strength is the urgent demand of the times and the constant will of the fellow countrymen.

If the South Korean authorities' illegal measures prevent us from going to the South, the joint holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally will not be realized. However, nothing in the world stops the 700 million fellow countrymen from vigorously going forward to achieve reunification in the nineties.

The Pomminnyon and the Pomchonghangnyon are nationwide organizations for reunification. They were formed with the patriotic will of the 700 million fellow countrymen, including youth and students in the country. They will stage a more vigorous struggle to fulfill their missions before the nation and history.

If the South Korean authorities ignore the unanimous desire of the entire fellow countrymen and constantly take the road against reunification, they will never escape the stern judgment of the nation.

[Dated] 13 August 1993

KCNA Reports Joint Statement

SK1308123693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—The delegate of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghangnyon) issued a joint statement after holding an emergency meeting at Panmunjom today when the North side's delegation of Pomminnyon and Pomchonghangnyon was barred from going to Seoul by the obstruction of the South Korean authorities.

The statement vehemently denounces in the name of the nation the South Korean authorities' act of blocking the holding of the Fourth PNR [Pannational Rally] in Seoul, branding it as an intolerable treachery against the desire and aspirations of the seventy million fellow countrymen for reunification and an unpardonable anti-national, anti-reunification criminal act.

It says:

The South Korean authorities hold the PNR and grand reunification festival of youth and students as heretic, terming it "an illegal rally" aimed at "overthrowing the system". This is a brigandish act to justify their anti-reunification moves.

Their talk that the "PNR is orchestrated by the North" is also a ridiculous, far-fetched argument.

To take the Fourth PNR for instance, in June, many pro-reunification patriotic movement organizations of South Korea including the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side headquarters of Pomminnyon decided to hold it in Seoul and formally

requested the authorities to cooperate in it and the North and overseas sides to let their 300-men delegations participate in it. Thus, it was put on the order of the day.

Facts prove what shameful lies the South Korean authorities tell unhesitatingly in a bid to conceal their criminal color as the very ones who do not want national unity and are opposed to reunification.

Pomminnyon and Pomchonghangnyon, as pan-national reunification movement organizations formed in response to the patriotic will of the seventy million fellow countrymen, youth and students, will more daringly and valiantly struggle to discharge their mission and role before the nation and history.

Should the South Korean authorities continue to go against reunification, ignoring the unanimous demand of all the fellow countrymen, they would face a stern judgement by the nation.

Hanminjon Issues Statement

SK1308120493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—A spokesman of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) issued a statement Wednesday demanding that the Kim Yong-sam "government" renounce the policy of confrontation and war, feeling shame in its treacherous scheme to plunge the fellow countrymen into the scourge of nuclear war in collusion with outside forces.

The statement brands the plan of the U.S. imperialists and the Kim Yong-sam "government" to hold the Ulchi Focus Lens military training this month and the Team Spirit joint military maneuvers next year as an unpardonable crime to disturb peace and ignite a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula and a dangerous play with fire to put down the South Korean people's desire for peaceful reunification with the gun report and reverse the trend of the situation toward detente and peace.

The present authorities of South Korea plan to continue the Team Spirit joint military maneuvers under the pretext of the "nuclear problem" of the North, the statement says, adding that this is a sheer fiction and a political intrigue.

It brands the present regime as a heinous civilian fascist regime and a civilian bellicose regime, noting that it is mercilessly suppressing the reunification movement of people of various strata at the point of the fascist bayonet and frantically staging nuclear war exercises with outside forces, aggravating the tension and confrontation between the North and the South.

The United States, a signatory to the DPRK-USA joint statement, must act with discretion, says the statement, demanding that it immediately cancel the projected criminal nuclear war exercises and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea without delay.

South Rally Organizer Calls For Support

SK1308123193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—The Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, chairman of the South side headquarters for the promotion of the Fourth Pan-national Rally, in a message addressed to the peace movement organisations of the world on August 7 reportedly requested them to express solidarity and support for the Pan-national Rally (PNR) in Seoul so that it might be held successfully.

Noting that the PNR has been held by the entire Korean nation in the North and the South and overseas from 1990, the message says acute socio-political and military confrontation has lasted between the North and the South of Korea.

Such tension is a factor of the instability not only in northeast Asia but also worldwide, the message says, and stresses:

Hence, the reunification of Korea will bring peace not only to the Korean people but also to the world people, and the PNR will and must become a worldwide peace conference.

Press Criticizes South's Decision

SK1308123293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 13 Aug 93

["Anti-Reunification Offensive of "Civilian" Fascists"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—South Korean "Prime Minister" Hwang In-song blared on August 11 that the pan-national rally [PNR] "would not be allowed," the activities of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon) to hold the rally "would be strictly coped with" and the core elements "be dealt with by the law." Earlier, the "supreme public prosecutor's office," branding the PNR as an "illegal rally," openly threatened that if Pomminnyon held the rally, Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and other sponsors would not be left alone.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says:

This is political suppression motivated by a malicious intention to crush the rally relentlessly, labeling it an "illegal rally." This is also a vicious challenge to the desire of the nation for peaceful reunification.

The analyst further says:

The South Korean authorities, as the truculent dictators of the "sixth republic" did, are branding the PNR as an "illegal rally" and brandishing bayonets at the proreunification democratic forces which intend to hold it.

This is a criminal act which can be justified with nothing.

To block with bayonets the PNR conducive to national reunification and suppress those aspiring after reunification is an act which can be done only by the nation-splittists who want neither national reconciliation and unity nor reunification.

The pro-reunification democratic forces of South Korea will never tolerate the "civilian" fascists who are bringing the wind of anti-reunification, challenging the nation's desire for reunification.

If the South Korean authorities do not want to follow in the disgraceful footsteps of their predecessors who were dumped in the rubbish heap of history, they must act with discretion and refrain from the suppression of the PNR.

A MINJU CHOSON analyst warns that if the South Korean authorities block the nation's grand march toward reunification at the point of the bayonet, going against the trend of the time, they will face denunciation of the entire fellow countrymen as a group of anti-reunification elements estranged from the nation.

KCNA Reports U.S.-ROK 'Aerial War' Exercise SK1308044293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities on August 10 staged a provocative exercise for night-time mid-air refuelling of some 30 "F-16" fighter-bombers flying in an aerial war gamble against the North in the sky above the west sea off Kunsan of South Korea by mobilizing formations of Guam-based "KC-135" tanker planes, according to military sources.

That night, "RC-135" high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane brought into South Korea from the Kadena Base in Okinawa staged night-time photographing and electronic espionage on the whole area of the northern half of Korea while repeatedly making flights from the east to the west along the Military Demarcation Line.

In separate action on the same day, 105mm artillery groups of the puppet army fired some 90 shells into spots near the Demilitarized Zone from Chongsa-ri and Songok-ri of Yonchon County and Chongja-ri of Paju County and more than 20 helicopters of the puppet army staged an air mobile operation exercise of "commandos" aimed at infiltrating into the depths of the North side in Chorwon County, South Korean Kangwon Province, and Yonchon County, Kyonggi Province.

This shows that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets do not want peace on the Korean peninsula but persistently seek only confrontation and war.

Han Sung-Chu's Remarks on Nuclear Problem Decried

SK1308060193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 13 Aug 93

["Suicidal Act"—KCNA headline]

"Foreign Minister", Han Sung-chu, told a press conference Tuesday that there could be "no more concession" as regards the North's "nuclear problem" and what is necessary at present is a "whip" such as "sanctions" by the UN Security Council. He made no bones of blaring that a person would be sent to the United States to seek a joint countermeasure on this principle.

This revealed the ulterior intention of the South Korean authorities who do not want a solution of the nuclear problem through negotiations, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says, and goes on:

It is clear to everyone that the South Korean authorities are displeased with the solution of the nuclear problem between the DPRK and the United States and do not hope for its solution between the North and the South.

Han Sung-chu said it is the "government's stand" to take "sanctions" against the North over the nuclear problem. This is a foolish remark revealing the anti-national nature of the present "regime" which styles itself a "civilian government".

It is inevitable that the South Korean rulers will be denounced at home and abroad as despicable traitors to the nation and war-thirsty elements who are itching to plunge the fellow countrymen into a nuclear holocaust.

Judging from Han Sung-chu's remarks, they have lost reason, afflicted with "sanction"-mania.

They would be well advised to stop doing a foolish act of digging their own graves.

Termed 'Threat'

SK1308050293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 13 Aug 93

["Reckless Wielding of "Whip""—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—South Korean "Foreign Minister" Han Sung-chu on August 10 let loose without hesitation a blast to threaten the North by strength, driveling that "what is needed now is a whip" as regards the fictitious "nuclear problem" of the North, according to a radio report from Seoul.

It is very ill-boding remarks; it is a grave threat to us previously unknown and an open challenge to the entire fellow countrymen who always want peace and peaceful reunification.

The South Korean authorities' outcries for "a whip" are, in one word, a threat to isolate and stifle the North with

international "sanctions" and pressure with the help of outside forces and, furthermore, ignite a nuclear war without hesitation to attain their sinister purpose.

The provocative utterances of Han Sung-chu fully and clearly tell to the world people what the real intention of the South Korean authorities is when they talk volubly about "dialogue" and "unification".

They must not act rashly, clearly understanding that it would create an unpredictable situation and bring only destruction to the South Korean authorities themselves when they have "sanctions" taken against the North with the help of outside forces.

Paper Denounces ROK-Japan 'Military Tie-up' SK1208115393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 12 Aug 93

["Moves for Dangerous Military Tie-up"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—The military tieup which is being tightened between Japan and South Korea comes under fire in NODONG SINMUN today.

Since the Cold War came to an end, Japan has zealously inveigled South Korea into the execution of its wild ambition to control the Asia-Pacific region by strength and establish a sphere of its domination in this region, the analyst says, and goes on.

The Japan-South Korea military tieup finds expression, first of all, in frequent visits and military confabs between the military quarters.

"Military cooperation" has been activated since the director of the Defence Agency and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of Japan visited South Korea in 1979.

Japan and South Korea have discussed the strengthening of the military tieup through "summit talks," "regular foreign ministers talks", "parliamentary talks", etc.

Still now when efforts are being made to fundamentally solve the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula, they are crying for "security measures" and "joint action" against the DPRK.

Lurking behind this is a sinister purpose. South Korea and Japan are trying to invent a pretext to isolate the DPRK internationally and strengthen their military tieup at any cost by taking issue with the "nuclear problem."

South Korea is putting the brake on the implementation of the North-South agreement and laying obstacles to North-South dialogue under the pretext of the North's "nuclear problem," while Japan is seeking to become a nuclear power, taking issue with this "problem."

If Japan and South Korea launch a joint military operation, equipped with nuclear arms, it would entail grave consequences beyond imagination.

Their dangerous military tieup finds expression also in that they stage joint military manoeuvres.

They, with the United States, carried out anti-submarine exercises, strait-blockading drills and other manoeuvres on several occasions. They have also participated in the "Rimpac" joint military exercises in recent years.

Facts show that the military tieup between Japan seeking aggression on Korea and South Korea zealously conspiring with it has reached a very dangerous stage.

Kim Il-song Greets Leader of Trinidad, Tobago SK1208115993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on August 10 sent a message of greetings to President of Trinidad and Tobago Noor Hassanali on his 75th birthday.

President Kim Il-song in the message wished the president of Trinidad and Tobago success in his work for the prosperity of the country and good health and happiness.

Swedish Communist Party Sends Gift to Kim Il-song

SK1208120093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a gift from the Central Committee of the Workers' Party-Communists of Sweden.

It was handed to Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, by Chairman Rolf Hagel, head of the delegation of the Workers' Party-Communists of Sweden on a visit to Korea.

Sends Gift to Kim Chong-il

SK1208120793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the Central Committee of the Workers' Party-Communists of Sweden.

It was handed to Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, by Chairman Rolf Hagel who is now visiting Korea at the head of the delegation of the Workers' Party-Communists of Sweden.

Symposium Marks 40th Anniversary of War 'Victory'

SK1208115893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—A symposium on the Korean question was held in Kyoto, Japan on July 23 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the war.

At the symposium Professor Masaharu Ie of Kobe University of foreign studies, Professor Satakuni Takaya of Buddhist College and leader Writer Mun Kwang-u of CHOSON SINBO made reports on the subjects "On The Significance of The DPRK-U.S. Joint Statement", "On The Prospect of DPRK-U.S. Talks and DPRK-Japan Relations" and "On DPRK-U.S. Relations and National Reunification".

The reporters said the DPRK-U.S. joint statement constitutes a starting point in the solution of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula and in the improvement of DPRK-U.S. relations.

Pointing to the wrong attitude of the Japanese Government which is openly pursuing a hostile policy against Korea contrary to the trend of the DPRK-U.S. talks toward improvement of relations, they urged the Japanese Government to rectify its Korea policy at an early date.

They elaborated on the basic content and significance of the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country and the validity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's proposal for reunification through confederacy.

Meeting Commemorates 'Revolutionary Fighter' SK1208121593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 12 (KCNA)—A national meeting was held in Pyongyang on August 12 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Comrade Pak Kil-song, a communist revolutionary fighter who was boundlessly loyal to the great leader President Kim Il-song (August 18, 1917-August 12, 1943).

Pak Kil-song who fostered his anti-imperialist, patriotic will under the Japanese imperialist colonial rule creditably fulfilled the tasks given him by the revolutionary organisation from his childhood and later joined in the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

President Kim Il-song took good care of Pak who was more intelligent and brave than others and assigned him to the important post of the commander of a detachment of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

Pak was dispatched to northern Manchuria according to the far-reaching operational plan of President Kim Ilsong and dealt telling blows to the enemy in many battles and powerfully roused the popular masses in the anti-Japanese armed struggle, thus making a great contribution to the victory in the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

He died a heroic death at the age of 26, not seeing the day of national liberation he eagerly longed for.

On the gallows, he shouted to the crowd without pessimism: "...Fight it out against the Japanese imperialists. Our country is alive and so are our people. Long live General Kim Il-song! Long live the victory of the Korean revolution!"

In his memorial address, Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, said that the life of Comrade Pak Kil-song, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, was the life of a chuche-type communist revolutionary who sincerely held the leader of the revolution in high esteem and absolutely followed and upheld the cause of the leader with loyalty and the course of the proud struggle of a staunch revolutionary who devoted his youth and life to the liberation of the country and the victory of the revolution.

Following the example of loyalty of anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners including Comrade Pak Kil-song, we must uphold the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il with loyalty and filial piety and prepare ourselves better into true communist revolutionaries of chuche type who defend the party and the leader politically and ideologically and with our lives in any adversity, Kim Chung-nin said.

The memorial meeting was attended by Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workes' Party of Korea and chief of General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and other senior officials.

Scientific Symposium Held at Revolution Museum SK0708045393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0413 GMT 7 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—A scientific symposium was held at the Korean Revolution Museum Thursday, the 45th founding anniversary of which was significantly commemorated.

Present there were Kang Sok-song, director of the Party History Institute of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials in Pyongyang in charge of revolutionary sites and relics.

The speakers at the symposium noted that it is a fundamental guarantee for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of chuche, the cause of socialism, to successfully inherit and develop the revolutionary traditions of the Workers' Party of Korea.

It is firstly because the anti-Japanese revolutionary traditions help firmly maintain the lifeline of our socialist cause, they pointed out. They said another reason is that our party's revolutionary traditions make it possible to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks in every way by closely rallying the party members and other working people around the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and enable them to struggle to the end for victory of the cause of socialism with a firm faith in it.

The speakers profoundly explained the significance and importance of the work of dealing with the revolutionary sites and relics in defending and carrying forward the revolutionary traditions of chuche.

Kim Chong-il Designates Months To Popularize Sports

SK0908074593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—August and September are months of the people's physical strength examination in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il saw to it that these months were set to popularize sports in the country.

An opening ceremony of the months for 1993 was held at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium Sunday.

It was attended by Vice-premier Chang Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions Chu Song-il and other officials concerned and working people and youth and students in the city.

Pak Myong-chol, chairman of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, and others made speeches.

Yi In-mo Sends Thanks to Kim Chong-il SK1308053493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will. Yi In-mo returned to the embrace of the socialist motherland on March 19, 1993, when he could not move around due to the aftermath of harsh torture he had suffered in prisons of South Korea. Now he has come back to his home from the hospital, having recovered his health under the benevolent loving care of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea and under the benefits of the socialist health care system.

His house is situated on the bank of the beautiful River Potong.

He has experienced with his heart the fact that there is no motherland, or himself and his family without a great leader, and therefore, he sent the letter to Comrade Kim Chong-il evincing his determination to remain bound-lessly loyal to him for ever.

He wrote in the letter:

I have recovered health and returned home from the hospital under the solicitude of you the dear leader.

At home, I could not find words to express my thanks for the piano and tape-recorder you sent.

I could not imagine even in my dream that you, the dear leader, who are so busy with a lot of work to do and a lot of matters to think over, should show such concern for me, an ordinary man who has done nothing special except living true to his pledge as a party member.

Saying his happiness is inconceivable in South Korean society, he stressed it is his idea and resolve to devotedly work for the dear leader for the rest of his life.

Visits Revolutionary Martyrs' Cemetery SK1308054893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0515 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—Former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will, went round the Revolutionary Martyrs' Cemetery on Mt. Taesong several days ago.

When he was sent back to the socialist homeland on March 19, he was unable to move himself, left invalid by the brutalities of the South Korean fascist hangmen.

Recovering his health, he recently participated in the national conference of war veterans and the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the war.

In the cemetery on the Chujak Peak of Mt. Taesong, Yi, together with his family, laid a bunch of flowers and observed a moment's silence in honor of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners who devoted their lives to the noble struggle for the liberation of the country and the freedom and liberation of the people.

He read the autographic letters of the great leader President Kim Il-song telling that the noble revolutionary spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners will always remain in the memory of our party and the people.

He placed a bouquet before the bust of Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, with deep reverence for her.

He was deeply moved by the noble virtues and revolutionary obligation of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who took care that the revolutionary martyrs who died a heroic death in the struggle for the liberation of the country were buried in a scenic spot commanding a bird's-eye-view of Pyongyang. Yi In-mo conversed with working people and children enjoying themselves in the recreation ground of Mt. Taesong and climbed Mt. Taesong to see the old wall.

KCNA Reviews 13 Aug Pyongyang Press

SK1308054993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13 (KCNA)—Papers here today frontpage messages of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Noor Hassanali, President of Trinidad and Tobago, on his 75th birthday.

It is reported in the press that gifts were sent to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il by the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party-Communists of Sweden.

NODONG SINMUN carries the decision of the eighth plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Peruvian Communist Party reported by its General Secretary Renan Raffo Munoz to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

Printed in the press are messages of greetings sent to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il from foreign party leaders on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the fatherland liberation war.

NODONG SINMUN reports that reply messages came to President Kim Il-song from foreign state leaders.

Given in the press is an account of a meeting celebrating the 30th anniversary of the on-the-spot guidance of President Kim Il-song to Yanggang Province.

The press carries the gist of a letter sent to Comrade Kim Chong-il by former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article telling how Comrade Kim Chong-il directed the building of the monument to the victory in the fatherland liberation war as one of the hero monuments of our age.

Conveyed in the daily are words of South Korean people ardently revering President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Carried in the press are news of a national memorial service held on the 50th anniversary of the death of Pak Kil-song, a communist revolutionary fighter, and the memorial address delivered by Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the C.C., the WPK.

According to NODONG SINMUN, the Foreign Ministry gave a banquet on the 67th birthday of Fidel Castro Ruz. Appearing in the press are a statement released by the Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland denouncing the South Korean authorities for blocking the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul, a joint communique of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the North side headquarters of the National Alliance of Youth and Studnets for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghangnyon) and commentaries in this connection.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article accusing the present "regime" of South Korea styling itself a "civilian government" of fostering North-South confrontation and further heightening tension.

News analysts of papers lambast the South Korean "foreign minister" who cried for U.N. "sanctions" against the North, again taking issue with its "nuclear problem".

Carried in the press are speeches made by a delegate of the International Lawyers Committee and Korean woman Chong Song-myong who was a "comfort woman for the Japanese Army" at a meeting of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities for a Thoroughgoing Investigation into the problem of the "comfort women for the army" drafted by the Japanese imperialists. Also carried in the press are foreign press tones concerning the problem.

The press informs the readers that the Tanzanian president called for increased agricultural production, the secretary general of the organization of African unity elaborated on a solution to regional problems and Russian and the Ukraine are opposed to each other in the issue of the nuclear arms control.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article titled "Serious Debt Problem of African Countries."

South Korea

NUB Minister: Civilian Movement Must Stay in Bounds

SK1308013493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0106 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Han Wan-sang, vice prime minister and unification board [NUB] minister, issued a statement this morning and said: The civilian-level reunification movement must be conducted within the bounds of a positive law. Directly discussing the reunification issue with the North Korean authorities without participation by the government will never be beneficial to the practical improvement of North-South relations.

Unification Minister Denounces Rally

SK1308034293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Han Wan-sang denounced a pannational rally scheduled for Yonsei University on Friday, but appealed for support for a human chain from Seoul to Imjin-kak as a national festival for unification.

"Private-level unification activities must have their basis in our constitution and be legitimate and orderly," Han, who is also National Unification Minister, said in a statement.

"The pannational rally is political propaganda and far from a pure private unification activity," he said.

Some rally leaders ignored the constitution and wanted to talk directly with Pyongyang or pro-North Korean officials abroad about unification, he said. He confirmed the government's strong opposition to the two-day rally, due to begin Friday.

Han called the human chain promoted by the Korea National Council of Churches (KNCC) a voluntary and peaceful activity in aspiration for unification. He urged full support and cooperation to make an unbroken line of people from independence gate in western Seoul to Imjin-kak at the demilitarized zone on independence day, Aug. 15.

North Korea should relinquish the out-dated propaganda of the cold war and faithfully attend talks with the Seoul government for improvement in practical inter-Korean relations, he said.

Russian Manager Comments on Aerospace Technology

SK1308032393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0127 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Taejon, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Russia has the most advanced aerospace technology at the Taejon Expo, outdoing even the U.S. space shuttle, and is tapping the possibility of joint-ventures with South Korean businesses, a Russian pavilion manager said Friday.

On display in the Russian pavilion, under the theme "36 years in space" to mark the 36th year since the launch of the world's first satellite, are Russia's latest satellites, a space shuttle that remains earth-bound because of a lack of money, and a supersonic jetliner. The pavilion has a computer link to Moscow so that it can quickly get information sought by possible Korean business partners.

"Russia has been developing many kinds of stateof-the-art aerospace facilities but could not complete some of them due to financial problems," said the pavilion's advertising manager, Dmitriy Fadeyv. "Russia is now under reformation of its economics and Russian businessmen is eager to contact with South Korean businesses for economic cooperation," Fadeyv said.

Some of the communications satellites displayed in the Russia pavilion have not yet been launched. Arkos, which helps people anywhere on earth communicate by telephone or facsimile, is the newest Russian satellite.

The Russian space shuttle Buran is also attracting much attention. Developed as Russia's first space shuttle, it could not be launched yet because it costs a lot of money, a Russian staff member said.

Dissidents' Role in DPRK Democratization Urged SK1208012093 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Aug 93 p 6

[Editorial: "Steady Stand on N. Korea"]

[Text] With its rejection of the Seoul proposal that the inter-Korean nuclear control committee sessions be resumed, North Korea has proven that it has no intention of talking directly with South Korea, at least for the time being.

Under the present circumstances, Pyongyang's primary concern is clearly to extend its talks with the United States as long as possible to delay the key international inspection of its nuclear facilities in order to push ahead with its cover nuclear arms project.

It is also apparent that North Korea continues to use its parleys with the U.S. as a rare lever to elicit as many U.S. concessions in the bilateral negotiations as possible in quest of material gains. What Pyongyang is trying to acquire from the U.S. and other Western nations are the huge amounts of money and sophisticated technology needed if it has to transform its secret nuclear arms project into peaceful power plants.

To be noted is the North's audacious argument that to continue Team Spirit, an annual S. Korea-U.S. defensive military drill, next year would make a fool of North Korea and betray the wishes of the whole Korean nation.

Pyongyang has instead reiterated its proposal for the exchange of emissaries to prepare for the holding of an inter-Korean summit while it continues to turn away from official inter-Korean channels of dialogue.

Pyongyang then jumped at the chance to claim that Seoul should not obstruct a mass rally in Seoul on Aug. 15 liberation day, being organized by radical organizations in the South. Though the rally has already been defined as unlawful by the government, North Korea aims by instigating dissident activists in the South to show a lack of consensus here concerning the Korean unification issues.

Under a non-military government as we have now, divergent public opinions can be expressed in principle

but should be adjusted in a way to allow the forging of official governmental policies. But at the past three attempted mass rallies of this kind, the organizers have parrotted the North Korean regime's perennial propaganda calls to the South.

They included demands for a confederation system as an initial step toward national reunification, withdrawal of foreign forces, abrogation of the National Security Law, release of "political convicts" and reduction of the military forces in the South.

This year the rally organizers have reportedly decided to drop the call for a U.S. troop pullout in an attempt to head off a clash with the government over the sensitive issue. However, there remain suspicions about the ideological inclination of the organizers, who call themselves Pan-National League for Peaceful Unification of the Fatherland (Korea).

To clear away such suspicions and to advocate a genuine, ideology-free and patriotic private-level unification movement, the league ought to call for North Korea's door-opening, reforms and democratization. This is an impartial and fair way to improve inter-Korean relations and eventual unification of the divided country.

Now that the civil government which has been introduced in the South is pushing ahead with drastic reforms and a wide range of democratization processes, it is North Korea's turn to open its doors, go democratic and tolerate the political critics and opponents as the South does.

In this connection, all progressive dissidents in the South, whether students, labor union leaders or political oppositionists, are urged to change their attitude and speak out on the vital need for the North Korean democratization. They should bring pressure to Pyongyang rulers to give up their malicious plot to split national opinion in the South and instead to accept the international (IAEA) nuclear inspections to honor the inter-Korean agreement on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Pyongyang is advised to realize that it will lose more in the international community and find more difficulty in its nuclear talks with the U.S. if it fans illegal antigovernment movements in the South. In this regard, it is wise for our government to use the stick instead of the carrot in coping with North Korea.

Accordingly, we had better not be impatient in seeking the resumption of inter-Korean talks but should take a wait-and-see attitude toward Pyongyang at least until after the third U.S.-North Korea nuclear meeting, slated for next month.

Firm Wins Saudi Desalination Plant Contract SK1008044393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT

10 Aug 93

[Text] Changwon, South Korea, Aug. 10 (YONHAP)— Korea Heavy Industries and Construction Co. has won a contract to build the world's biggest desalination and electricity generating plant in Saudi Arabia, a company spokesman said Tuesday. It beat six companies, including Japan's Mitsubishi, in the Saudi Arabian state project for a 500,000 kilowatt steam turbine desalination and generating plant worth 950 million U.S. dollars.

The turnkey project gives Korea Heavy Industries full control from designing to test operation, the spokesman said. Korea Heavy will start construction in Jedda, southwestern Saudi Arabia, in October and hopes to finish by 1998.

Kim Orders Colonial Japanese Building Dismantled

SK0908082193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0751 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 9 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yongsam on Monday ordered the dismantling of the muchhated building of the government-general of the Japanese colonial era and restore the Kyongbok Palace of the Yi Dynasty.

In order to reclaim the self-respect and spirit of the Korean people, Kim also ordered the government to build a National Central Museum and move what are now on display in the massive granite structure built by the Japanese colonialists in the center of the capital city.

Kim said that he had given a long and hard deliberation on the matter as the day of the national independence (Aug. 15) is approaching and at the time the country brought back the remains of five leaders of the provisional government in Shanghai, China. As a result, the president said he has arrived at a conclusion that it is desirable for the nation to dismantle the Japanese government-general building in order to recover the spirit and self-respect of the people as soon as possible.

"I believe a national concensus has been built around this point," Kim said.

In a special instruction to his cabinet, Kim said, "it definitely was a mistake to house the national heritage and essence of the Korean people's culture in what has been the building of the Japanese government-general."

"Therefore, with the dismantling of the building, the government should actively study the possibility of building a national museum befit 5,000 years of the Korean people's history and in preparations for unification of the country," Kim said, according to presidential spokesman Yi Kyong-chae.

Following the presidential instruction, the Ministry of Culture and Sports and other ministries concerned will start consulting among themselves before making an announcement soon, officials said.

Presidential Envoy To Visit Paraguay, Peru, Japan

SK0708083093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0740 GMT 7 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 7 (YONHAP)—First Minister of State for Political Affairs Kim Tok-yong will visit Paraguay to attend the inauguration of President Juan Carlos Wasmosy on Aug. 15 as the government's congratulatory emissary. A diplomatic source said on Saturday Minister Kim will have an opportunity to meet with President Wasmosy, during which he will convey President Kim Yong-sam's congratulations to him. Kim will also meet with new Paraguayan Government leaders to discuss ways to further promote friendly relations existing between the two countries.

From Asuncion, Minister Kim will fly to Sao Paulo to meet with Korean community leaders there who are celebrating their community's 30th anniversary this year.

He will also visit Peru where he will confer with President Alberto Fujimori to expand bilateral relations.

On his way home, Minister Kim is expected to drop into Tokyo where he will confer with the leaders of Japan's new ruling camp to exchange opinions on wide-ranging matters of common interest.

Ministry: N-S Material Exchanges Increase SK0708074293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0658 GMT 7 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 7 (YONHAP)—Despite the steady decline in the overall volume of inter-Korean material exchanges to reflect strained relations, the amount of textiles processed on a commission basis in South-North deals has been expanding sharply.

Figures on South-North material exchanges in July released on Saturday by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, showed that textile products processed in North Korea on commission for South Korean firms totaled 1,420,000 dollars in 16 projects in the first half of the year.

The amount compares with 374,000 dollars in six projects in the whole last year.

The six-month total included 473,000 dollars in three projects in the first quarter of this year and 947,000 dollars in 13 projects in the second quarter.

On the other hand, overall commodity exchanges in the first seven months of this year totaled 109,083,000 dollars, a decline of 22.9 percent from the corresponding period of last year.

A ministry official said textile processing on commission has been switching from such simple products as trousers to high value added items like jackets. The official said the total commodity exchanges in the January-July period included 3,281,000 dollars worth shipped to North Korea and 105,802,000 dollars introduced from the North, which represented declines of 71.9 and 10.8 percent, respectively, from the like period of last year.

Finance Minister Details Real-Name Transaction System

SK1208143393 Seoul YONHAP in English 1412 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Yi Kyong-sik and Finance Minister Hong Chaehyong declared late Thursday that all transactions with financial institutions must be made in real names from now on. Under the new financial transaction system, all financial assets are in principle obliged to be traded only after being cleared that they are done in real names at the time of their first transaction, the ministers said.

Minister Hong said that the government would waive probes into the origin of money up to 50 million won for those who would have switched their false names into real ones within two months. Those who own money in false names thenceforth won't be able to withdraw the money, Hong said.

After the grace period has passed, he said, the disobedient will be subject to a fine of 10 percent per year until the accumulative fine reaches 60 percent (equivalent to the maximum gift tax rate) and be saddled with 96.75 percent tax on their interest and dividend incomes.

The government will be making all-out efforts to minimize such ill effects of the real-name financial transaction system as real estate price hike, capital flight, stock market plunge, and financial difficulties of small businesses, he said.

In cases withdrawals of cash exceed 30 million won during the first two months, the government will notify them to the Office of National Tax Administration and let it oversee their usage, he added.

To guarantee confidentiality of financial information, the government will toughen procedures for requesting information and authorize financial institutions to refuse unjust requests, he said.

Rusinesses React to New System SK1208150193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1426 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 12 (YONHAP)—Daewoo Business Group Chairman Kim U-chung gave the thumbs up to the president's announcement to implement the real-name financial transaction late Thursday. Kim has always been a champion of the system and he brightened on hearing the news, saying "very good," an aide said.

—"The time has come" is the general feeling of Samsung Business Group, which cautiously projected immediate backfire on the economy.

Director of the Samsung Economic Research Institute, Im Tong-song, commenting on the plan to inspect and impose tax on those above 30 in age possessing more than 50 million won in false-name accounts, pointed out business activities could wither when government begins tracking down accounts in pseudonym.

The accounts in false names are estimated to be worth 3 trillion won and a sudden raid on them may cause a chaos in the financial industry, other company officials said. They advised the government to expand money supply so that there was no temporary freeze in money transaction as they predicted banks would first be reluctant to extend loans to companies.

They particularly expressed concern for the small-and medium-sized firms who heavily depend on private money market for their loans.

—But welcome, some hearty, was the general consensus to the decision, especially from the dissident community.

Representatives of the trade unions nationwide welcomed President Kim Yong-sam's announcement, but named limit to the effectiveness of the real-name transaction if global taxation on financial capital was held back.

While criticizing the government's timidity of exempting tax on marginal income of stock transfers, it generally praised the decision because it believed that the government would soon overcome the limits and problems.

The Korean Federation of Trade Unions said it welcomed the decision to fulfill economic justice with open arms in a statement.

It expected that the implementation of real-name transaction could well raise the morale of workers because it could root out unfair methods of amassing wealth and help fill the social gap, the statement said.

But the federation called for a global taxation on financial gains and marginal profits of stock trading as well for a success of the system.

—Others in the business and academic community expressed anxiety as well as positive response and called for quick follow-up measures to minimize the ill effects on the already depressed economy.

The President's announcement to implement the realname system and guarantee confidentiality of financial information is a historical move to realize the economic justice and enforce order on the capital market, Taegu Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman Kang Chae-cho said. Money will no longer remain underground but flow into facility investment, Kang said, praising the safeguard measures for small businesses. Ha In-pong, a professor in economics at Kyongbuk University saw the real-name card as a result of the ongoing recession despite the new economic plan by the government.

"The timing is good as to bar public officials from hiding their financial assets in false names," he said, adding that the measure would definitely have great fruits in the long run.

The decision can save many small businesses who are under desperate lack of funds due to the inflow of black money into the actual economy, a small industry owner said.

—"It's better late than never and we welcome the decision that was shelved for 10 years by the two previous governments," United People's Party [UPP] spokesman Kim Su-il said.

"We anticipate the measure could put an end to the chronic corruptive financial structure and open roads to clean politics and rich economy," Kim said.

Finance Minister, Deputy Minister Comment SK1308041393 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 Aug 93 p 8

[Answers by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Kyong-sik and Finance Minister Hong Chae-hyong to reporters' questions on the real-name system during a news conference in Seoul on 12 August]

[Text] Question [Q]: Why did the government decide to implement the real-name system today?

Answer [A] (Hong): We thought that removing the uncertainty about the time of implementation was more important than anything else. While maintaining a tight security, we prepared to implement the system this month because financial transactions in August are not so heavy as in other months of the year. We first thought of this coming Saturday, but gave up the idea because it was followed by a national holiday (Liberation Day). We chose today in consideration of the work burden of the financial institutions. The change in business hours from 2 P.M. to 8 P.M. tomorrow will give them time to inform relevant staff. The work burden on the following day will not be so heavy as well because it falls on a weekend.

Q: Don't you think this unilateral action may dampen the already-slow investment?

A (Yi): We expect that it will temporarily cause a shock. But the shock will be absorbed in a short period of time. Removing the uncertainty about the time of the implementation will help boost mid—and long-term investment in the long run.

Q: Does the government have any idea about dealing with accounts using borrowed names?

A (Hong): It will be difficult to expose the borrowedname accounts for the time being. But the practice will affect the implementation of global taxation of incomes on financial transactions.

Q: How will the government trace the funds in the process of changing a false name account to a real-name one?

A (Hong): Accounts worth up to 15 million won held by minors, 15 years old or younger, will be exempted from the investigation. The limit will be 50 million for all others. The account inspection is aimed not at uncovering past misdeeds but at collecting due taxes.

Q: Does the government plan to adjust its growth projection for the year?

A (Yi): I don't think we need to make any changes at this time. We will be watching carefully future developments and deal with them properly so that this measure does not affect the economy.

System To Affect Stock Market

SK1308053293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0325 GMT 13 Aug 93

[By Kim Myong-chol]

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—The mandatory use of real names in all financial transactions, enforced by President Kim Yong-sam under an emergency presidential decree issued on Thursday evening, is expected to have a greater impact on the stock market than on other financial markets, because investors using false names have had a greater influence on the stock market than on other markets.

To help the stock market cushion the impact, the government decided not to impose a tax on capital gains in the stock market and to continue with its policy requiring institutional investors to buy more shares than they sell. In addition, help will be given to investment trust firms for the redemption of profit-guaranteed investment funds that start to mature from next month.

But these measures will not boost investor sentiment, and many rich investors using false names may take their money out of the market, analysts say.

The stock market has been in the doldrums for some time now, largely because of uncertainty over economic prospects and mandatory asset disclosures by higherranking public officials.

As the much-talked-about real-name system was implemented in a blitz, it will prolong the market's ebb, according to analysts.

The outflow of funds from the stock exchange will drain other financial markets of funds, leading to a sharp rise in interest rates and a resultant shrinkage in corporate investment. Over the months of hot public debate on the real-name system since the inauguration in February of President Kim Yong-sam, lots of money from false-name accounts found its way into long-term bearer securities, such as 20-year housing bonds, and other financial assets that are not immediately influenced by the real-name system.

Withdrawals from deposit-taking institutions since public officials began registering their personal property in June are estimated at 1 trillion won (1.25 billion U.S. dollars), and the problem is that this money is lying in coffers.

Optimists say the real-name system will greatly reduce the influence of the underground economy and help clean funds flow into the stock market to stabilize share prices, but this view is not very convincing given the weak economic fundamentals.

As of the end of last month, false-name accounts at securities houses numbered 26,000, or 1.01 percent of the 2,601,000 active accounts. This means that 98.99 percent were real-name accounts. In terms of size, the 925.3 billion won in false-name accounts represented 2.76 percent of the 33,603 billion won in all the active accounts. The balance in real-name accounts was 97.24 percent.

Real-name accounts amounted to 98.5 percent in banks, 99.4 percent in short-term finance companies and 99.7 percent in investment trust firms, all in terms of deposits.

Nobody is sure of the amount of funds that will leave the stock market due to the real-name system.

In the late 1980s, the Finance Ministry estimated that implementation of the real-name system would lead 80 percent of the money in false-name accounts to desert the stock market.

Analysts, noting the government's decision not to tax capital gains in the market for five years, say the outflow will be much lower than the ministry's estimate.

Controlling shareholders and their relatives and board members of listed companies are known to hold falsename accounts to nominally distribute the company's shares among themselves and to make profits on transactions of these shares through the use of inside information.

According to securities supervisory board investigations in 1988, the "camouflaged" distribution of shares by controlling shareholders to their relatives and intimates accounted for 7.3 percent of listed shares, amounting to 6.5 trillion won based on stock market capitalization of 90 trillion won.

The real-name system will prevent camouflaged distribution of shares by use of false-name accounts, and about half of the funds locked in those nominally distributed shares will desert the stock market, analysts say. Funds in borrowed-name accounts will also leave the market. These accounts are estimated at between 10 percent to 15 percent of the total active accounts, and their deposits are put at some 3 trillion won.

Few outflows from customer deposits with brokerage firms are expected because black funds already left when public debate on the real-name system began right after the new government set sail.

To reduce the real-name system's impact on the stock market as much as possible, the economy must improve its fundamentals, such as growth, exports and prices. Should the economy continue in this recession, the real-name system will only aggravate the already weak stock market.

The bond market will thrive, with funds flowing from the shaky stock market in the wake of the real-name system's implementation, but undeclared transactions of bearer securities on the curb market will increase sharply as investors attempt to avoid gift and inheritance taxes by selling bonds with no official record of ownership to their relatives and friends, according to analysts.

In the long run, the bond market will also be affected by the real-name system because redeeming mature bonds requires the use of a real name.

YONHAP Describes Effects

SK1308100193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0859 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—South Koreans went on a gold-buying spree Friday as the real-name financial system went into effect, sending up both wholesale and retail prices though the international price was visually stable. Wise jewelers opened an hour earlier than other days in expectation of customers seeking material assets to buy with the money stored in their alias accounts.

"I am sick and tired of getting phone calls asking if they can buy gold right now," said a Seoul gold dealer who would identify himself only as Kwon.

But customers did not flow in until after 2 P.M., when banks and other financial institutes opened.

Gold went at 41,000 won (51 U.S. dollars) a don (3.75g) wholesale at opening, but was 42,000 won a don by early afternoon. Retail prices went as high as 47,000 won as jewelers whined at lack of gold from wholesalers and black market dealers, who went into hiding.

The Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice (Kyong-shillyon) had long demanded implementation of the real-name financial system and was elated to be busy getting congratulatory calls and answering questions from reporters. A book published by the coalition on the real-name system was in high demand for its detailed description of what the new system will mean. The coalition will meet with the Central Bank of Korea on

Monday to discuss exact details of the real-name system, another booking in its busy schedule.

Inquiries from customers had bank and securities company staff sweating Friday as the real-name financial system took effect.

Financial institutions, which didn't open until 2 P.M., spent most of the morning teaching their employees how to identify account holders and how to calm anxious customers. Closing time was postponed to 8 P.M.

Commercial bank headquarters began a 24-hour telephone service and banks set up special counters to answer questions about the real-name system.

Inquiries included wives wanting to know what would happen to their husbands' accounts, how account holders should identify themselves, and if identification was needed to make a deposit.

Textile merchants at Kwangjang market in central Seoul took a day off Friday to contemplate the effect on them of the real-name system. All have borrowed between 3 million won and 10 million won on the curb market, and may well face financial difficulties, a shopkeeper said.

Curb loan makers were sighing all day Friday when announcement of real-name financial system chased away potential borrowers.

Moneyholders were refusing bill discounts in fear of being tracked down. More than 300 loan makers on the downtown curb market gave up and didn't even open shop.

A man who has been in the loan making business for five years worried that small- and medium-sized businesses will suffer the most from the financial reform, shut out from bank loans for lack of collateral and now shut out even from the curb market.

Some sitting out on the streets said they will seriously consider changing their line of business.

More were unsuccessful than successful in doing their daily financial transactions, some turned away from bank windows for not being able to prove they were somebody's wife or son, or even a somebody.

"You mean to tell me I can't even make a withdrawal from my own account?" yelled a customer after being told he has to first prove his real name indeed matches the name on the account.

Yi Sun-hui, a 29-year-old housewife, tried to take money out of her husband's account but was told to prove she was indeed his wife.

She went to a ward office, got a copy of his citizen's registration record showing her married status and came back to the bank.

Financial institutions didn't open until 2 P.M. but the employees were on straight duty from Thursday evening.

Bank workers were contacted at their homes to come back to office late night while others were told to come hours earlier than usual Friday morning.

Banks opened, but computers were not ready with the new system, delaying operation for over 30 minutes in some cases.

Stock Prices Plunge

SK1308101093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0932 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Share prices crashed most heavily in the country's 37-year bourse history on Friday affected by the sudden announcement of the real name financial transactions system.

The leading Korean composite stock price index plummeted as much as 32.37 points or 4.46 percent from Thursday to finish at 693.57.

The session started 22.79 points down and the pace of decline gained force as time passed by. Like banking institutes, the bourse session opened at 2:10 PM [0510 GMT] to get prepared for paper works for the new financial system.

Both volume and turnover also were lowest in history. [A] mere 1,357,000 shares were traded at 23.3 billion won (28.8 million U.S. dollars) as almost all players wanted to sell off while few were willing to take.

Some 99.3 million shares offered for sale at the daily bottom prices were left unsold.

Only two issues rose and those declined numbered 918, all but one to the daily bottom. There were no issues that were unchanged while no price was formed for 40 others.

A market official said the shock of the real name system would continue for a while. On a long-time basis, however, the new system could be helpful to the stock market business, he said.

Lawmakers Agree on Special Session

SK1308101393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0853 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—The floor leaders of the ruling and opposition parties on Friday agreed to hold a special National Assembly session for five days from Aug. 16 through 20 to act on the presidential emergency order on real-name financial transactions and guarantee of confidentiality.

Following the bipartisan agreement, Assembly Speaker Yi Man-sop formally posted on Friday afternoon the convocation of the 163rd extraordinary assembly session.

Floor Leader Kim Yong-ku of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party and his opposition Democratic Party counterpart, Kim Tae-sik, decided to listen to Prime Minister Hwang In-song giving a report on the real name system and act on the bill on Aug. 19 after studying it at the Finance Committee on Aug. 17 and 18.

The two floor leaders also agreed to convene assembly trade-industry and other relevant committee meetings upon the end of the coming special sitting to discuss matters related to the real-name system.

The Democratic Party at first demanded that the special assembly session also take up the issue of conducting parliamentary inspection of administration offices in connection with alleged irregularities in the Yulgok project and other issues.

However, the party retracted the demand in view of the fact that the special meeting was requested by the president for review of a specific issue, the real-name system.

Reportage on Taegu, Chunchon By-Elections

Committee Announces Likely Winners

SK1208230293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1604 GMT
12 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Independent So Hun in Taegu and Yu Chong-su of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] in Chunchon are likely winners in the by-elections.

According to a compilation made by the Central Election Management Committee, So Hun earned 14,265 votes, about 5,470 votes more than his runner-up, No Tong-il of the ruling party, in the Taegu East-B district at midnight when decisive 52.5 percent of the total ballots cast were counted.

In Chunchon, Yu Chong-su of the DLP gained 13,519 votes, about 958 more votes than the Democratic Party's Yu Nam-son, where 51.3 percent of the ballots have been counted.

YONHAP Names Winners

SK1308024193 Seoul YONHAP in English 2354 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—Independent So Hun and Yu Chong-su of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party won the by-elections in Taegu and Chunchon on Thursday.

So gained 30,206, or 45.4 percent, of the valid votes, easily defeating runner-up No Tong-il of the DLP by a margin of 11,982 votes in the Taegu East-B district, according to the final compilation by the Central Election Management Committee.

In Chunchon, Yu garnered 26,956, or 37.5 percent, of the valid votes to defeat Democratic Party rival Yu Nam-son, who trailed him by 2,530 votes.

Voter turnout in the two districts averaged 59.3 percent: In Taegu East-B 66,910 voters, or 60.2 percent of the 111,179 eligible: And in Chunchon 72,469 voters, 58.5 percent of the 123,853 eligible.

Vote-Buying Said 'Rampant'

SK1308040693 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] President Kim Yong-sam has to answer for the "dirty" by-elections in Taegu and Chunchon. How can such lowly electioneering methods have been possible if he really seeks the lofty goal of reform and clean politics?

What happened in the two cities is far from what he was saying during his presidential election campaigns, "I would rather prefer a good loser to a bad winner." Press reports have it that money distribution to buy votes was rampant. Below-the-belt propaganda was also rampant. And all kinds of unpleasant activities went on unabated just the same as during the past regimes, which Kim has pulled no punches in attacking.

Despite repeated pledges to hold the by-elections in a calm and clean manner without direct involvement of the central party apparatus, the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] led by President Kim reneged on its promise.

Rolling up their sleeves, DLP chairman Kim Chong-pil and secretary-general Hwang Myong-su got themselves involved in the "free-for-all" in Taegu and Chunchon to say nothing of other lawmakers without hats.

Raising dust, they rattled about in the two cities to rally support behind their candidates, apparently obsessed with winning the elections before anything else.

They might have believed that winning the by-elections was helping President Kim after getting their fingers burned in the by-election in Myongju-Yangyang in June.

Of course, the ruling DLP may have an excuse. Party leaders may argue that it could not stand idly by as spectators in the face of the all-out "unlawful" campaign by the opposition Democratic Party.

But the argument hardly persuades. No matter what the DP may do, the DLP should have remained faithful to its professed pledge of clean elections even at the expense of losing the by-elections.

This is because the DLP is the ruling party and now leading the vanguard in reforms of President Kim for "clean and less costly" elections. This time, it should have shown to the people that it is really serious about it.

At the reports of flagrant violations of election laws and regulations, people who gave their trust in Kim's reform could not help feeling betrayed.

Of course, all the campaign activities were the responsibility of DLP chairman Kim Chong-pil. But President Kim cannot run away from responsibility because he could not have been left in the dark. He is an avid reader of newspapers. He is not Thomas Jefferson who once said a man who reads nothing is better educated than a man who reads nothing at all but newspapers.

Kim Regrets 'Tainted' By-Elections

SK1308093093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0729 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 13 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam expressed regret Friday over the "murkiness" that tainted Thursday's by-election in Taegu, where the candidate of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party lost to an independent. Nevertheless, Kim said, he believed voters in Taegu had given the right verdict.

The ruling party candidate was narrowly elected in Chunchon, Kangwon Province.

Talking to Chief Presidential Secretary Pak Kwan-yong and other senior presidential aides over breakfast, Kim noted that there had been regrettable money-for-vote practices and physical attacks on candidates during the campaign. Labeling the practice a phenonena that ran against his administration's efforts to settle a healthy election culture in this country, Kim said the government would investigate allegations of election law violations and wipe out the root cause.

Kim equated his determination to cut off collusion between politicians and businessmen through the realname system of financial transactions with his intention to clean up election violations in Taegu.

"Whether to gain one seat in the National Assembly is not the important issue," Kim said, adding that he intended to make Thursday's by-election results a turning point for a clean and healthier election climate.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Party [DP] said that whatever happened during the campaign, the fact remained that the main opposition party had suffered defeats both in Chunchon and Taegu.

The Democratic Party has done its best but failed to overcome the corrupt election campaign practices perpetrated by the ruling party, Party Spokesman Pak Chi-won said in a statement.

The Democratic Party will demand that the government undertake thorough investigations on the vote-buying by the ruling party, an attempted kidnapping of DP candidate Pak Chong-hun and an attempt to block the shipment of legal campaign publications.

Reporter Analyzes Results

SK1308115393 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 13 Aug 93 p 8

[Article by reporter Cho Chae-yong: "Analysis of Outcome of 12 August By-Elections"] [Text] The third by-elections since the new government came into office was held on 12 August and recorded one victory and one defeat for the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and overall defeat for the Democratic Party [DP]. In addition, an independent candidate won for the first time, thus producing an unusual result which is considered a defeat for both the ruling and opposition party.

While the DLP narrowly won the Chunchon election, it was defeated in the Taegu elections, where all its might had been directed, to an independent candidate.

The DLP defeat in Taegu may be said to be a "locally limited" [kukchichok] outcome caused by the "TK [Taegu and North Kyongsang Province] sentiment," a special regional condition. However, the the party's defeat was further fanned by the party leadership's election campaign which concentrated party strength on Taegu only to attract heated criticism for allegedly giving voters cash. Until now, the new government's reform and law enforcement drive has received constant criticism from some circles as being aimed at "special target figures," but the DLP has brought on to themselves, proof of this, in the Taegu by-elections.

Defeating the DP in Chunchon, the DLP avoided the worst scenario—total defeat in both places.

The DLP needs to keep in mind, however, that the significance of Chunchon's elections do not compare to that of Taegu.

Inevitably, total defeat has weakened the DP's power to criticize reform methods.

In particular, the election results indicating the DP's inability to garner votes from the obvious anti-DLP sentiment in Taegu will have damaged the Democratic Party's reputation. Without taking into account the special sentiment of Taegu, the adverse feelings of voters to the major opposition party were serious. This may lead to the questionning of party leadership which exercised the right to officially recommend a candidate.

This is because the party leadership ignored the strong call by a pro-reform group within the DP early on in the elections, to accept candidate So Hun, who had won in recent elections. Instead, the party leadership sought to win victory through joint cooperation with opposition parties and collaborated with the National People's Party and the New Korea Party only to verify failure.

Now both the DLP and DP are demoralized. Neither can describe the outcome of the elections results in favorable terms.

As a result, there is little chance for rapid change in relations between the ruling and opposition parties. The DP may launch a political offensive by making an issue of the cash handouts of ruling party election campaigners in the last stage of the campaign, but the effect of such an offensive is yet to be seen.

One of the causes behind the defeat of existing political circles in these elections is found in the severe corruption and fraud that characterized this election campaign and merit it the title of "the new government's worst by-elections."

Unlike the 14th general elections, only 60. 2 percent voted in Taegu, where parties fought fiercely over the other's illegal campaign activities, and this reflects how much the voters were disaffected by illegal election campaigns.

The recent by-elections recorded defeat for both ruling and opposition parties and showed that the election atmosphere which seemed headed in a sound direction was again overheated and corrupt. Thus, the political sphere is again endowed with the task of creating a sound election climate.

Economic Ministers Discuss Stimulating Economy SK1108080493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0727 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—The government will move ahead as scheduled with pump-priming projects, such as the second cellular telephone, Seoul-Pusan high-speed train and Yongjong Island International Airport projects, in a bid to stimulate corporate investment and thus revive the sagging economy.

Also decided at an economic ministers meeting presided over by President Kim Yong-sam at Chongwadae [presidential offices] on Wednesday was to set out details of the government's industrial specialization, labor, interest rate and monetary policies as the business community considers these policies, as announced by the government thus far, to be a stumbling block to corporate investment plans because of their opacity.

President Kim told the meeting that the five-year plan to build a new economy could be modified if such modification were deemed necessary to boost the economy, but its basic direction should not be changed.

The government should strive, therefore, to remove elements standing in the way of recovery from the recession, he stressed.

Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Yi Kyong-sik said uncertainty over business prospects and the sustained slowing of advanced economies had led to slowed corporate investment. This had combined with the difficulties of restructuring industry for a sharper competitive edge of Korean products in the world market to make the pace of recovery slower than generally expected, he added.

He said business had begun picking up, though slowly, on increasing exports.

To shore up the five-year new economy plan, the government would make 230 new rules governing economic activities by amending current rules or establishing new ones during the third quarter of this year, Yi said.

Koreasat Components Produced Domestically SK1108045493 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Aug 93 p 3

[Text] Three of the main parts and components for two Koreasat telecommunications satellites have been localized for the first time in the country, opening a new chapter in domestic space technology.

According to Korea Telecom yesterday, the three components were successfully developed by Korean Air which has been working closely under a technical agreement with Martin Marietta, the main contractor for the satellites.

The three components are the satellite structure system, solar array panel and the satellite shipping container, all of which require high technology due to the harsh space environment under which they have to perform their roles.

Telecom officials said other related companies, including Samsung Aerospace, are on the verge of localizing other key technologies and the successful development of the three parts and components is expected to act as a catalyst.

The satellite structure system, also known as the bus, exhibits strong structural properties and comes in the form of a box to contain a round cylinder and the main compartment which comes in contact with the launch vehicle, the officials explained.

They said the main purpose of the solar array panel is to protect and support the solar cell panel, thus making it necessary for the component to have great internal strength.

The satellite, on the other hand, is designed to be compatible with the General Electric Series 7000 satellites and will be used to transport the satellites to the launch site, the officials elaborated.

"Although the localization was made possible through technical cooperation with Martin Marietta, the acquisition of the technology will play a critical role in the domestic construction of satellites," said Sin Hong-kyun, general manager of Telecom's Satellite Business Group.

He said the first satellite structure system has already been sent to Martin Marietta in the United States and the remaining two components are expected to the shipped as soon as final inspections are completed.

Sin said Korean Air has not only been able to localize the technologies for the three critical components but acquired the technical knowhow for the development of integrated materials, hear treatment and temperature and humidity resistant production processes.

Under the nation's first satellite program, two telecommunications satellites are to be launched into orbit in April and October 1995, heralding the introduction of advanced telecommunications services.

The officials recapped that a total of 332.5 billion won is being invested into the construction of the satellites, earth stations and the launch vehicles as well as research and development.

Seoul Launches \$186-Million, 1,200-Ton Sub SK0708031893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0238 GMT 7 Aug 93

[Text] Okpo, South Korea, Aug. 7 (YONHAP)—South Korea's third submarine, the second to be built by a Korean yard, was launched Saturday as part of a gradual buildup of naval capability.

First Lady Son Myong-sun cut the tape to launch the 1,200-ton "Choemuson," named after a man who helped destroy more than 500 Japanese vessels in 1308 with his new invention—gunpowder.

"We need a strong Navy to safeguard the sea, which will become the central stage to the 21st century of Pacific era where global powers' cooperation and competition cross each other," President Kim Yong-sam said in a launching ceremony held at a shipyard of the Daewoo Group here.

"We are one of the most peace-loving nations on earth, but our history tells repeated humiliation by the lack of power to defend ourselves," Kim said. "We have to grow to defend on our own."

On hand at the ceremony were Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae, Adm. Kim Hong-yul, chief of naval operations, and Daewoo Group Chiarman Kim U-chung.

Choemuson glides at an average 22 knots dived and is equipped with anti-submarine missiles, an ultra-modern torpedo command and control system and electronic warfare capabilities and can travel 12,000 kilometers without refueling.

The submarine took 150 billion won (186 million U.S. dollars) to build and is the second vessel to be built at home with technological assistance with HDW of Germany. It is said to be twice as fast as North Korea's Whiskey class (Soviet-made) and Romeo class (Chinamade) submarines and much quieter, capable of two months of independent operation with torpedos, mines and over 30 boarders.

North Korea has 25 submarines, 17 built at home, for naval superiority over South Korea.

Seoul plans to upgrade its own Navy by owning six smaller submarines by 1998 and introduce medium-sized vessels over 2,000 tons that can carry air and surface missiles.

Choemuson will be commissioned sometime in fall next year.

Defense Ministry Committee To Study Military Reform

SK0708020793 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 7 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] As some have pointed out that military reform has not been systematically promoted, the Ministry of National Defense has decided to form a provisional organization, "The National Defense Reform Research Committee (tentatively named)" which is directly under Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae. The organization will research reform of the military system and overall military affairs.

The organization, which will be formed according to Minister Kwon's special direction, will be composed of approximately 20 lieutenant colonels and colonels from the Ministry of National Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and each branch. The organization will begin to work next week.

Seoul Plans 'Ultra-Speed' Communications Network

SK1208013793 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Aug 93 p 1

[Text] The government yesterday unveiled a blueprint to build "ultra-speed information communications networks" which are necessary to transform Korea into a full-fledged information society.

The plan, disclosed by Communications Minister Yun Tong-yun in a news conference, calls for, among other things, the establishment by 2015 of giga bps-level ultraspeed national information networks (giga stands for one billion and 1Gbps, or 1 giga bits per second, means transmission per second of data equivalent to 4,000 newspapers pages).

The envisioned networks are designed to meet data communications demands of government agencies, educational and research institutes and corporate research and development centers.

The blueprint also envisaged the installation of broadband integrated services digitial networks (B-ISDN) capable of transmitting multimedia (voice, graphic and image put together) information.

The government's project to build an "electronic superhighway" will be implemented in three phases starting this year. At each phase, network building will be promoted in parallel with the development of core technologies.

In the first stage which runs through 1997, the government's information networks built for administrative purpose will be upgraded from the present level of 9.6kbps to 155Mbps. These networks will then be merged with various educational networks to form a comprehensive wide-area data communication system.

During this initial period, communications cables of public agencies, large business buildings and educational and research complexes will be replaced with optical cables to enable them communicate information through public communications networks.

At the same time, efforts will be made to promote the development of next-generation information communication equipment and services.

During the second phase which extends from 1998 to 2002, the arterial information communications networks will be further upgraded to the 622Mbps level, and the installing of optical cables will be expanded to small-sized business firms and densely populated apartment complexes. The commercial provision of multimedia information will also begin, according to the blueprint.

The envisioned electronic super-highway will be completed in the third phase of 2003-2015 as an ultra-speed Gbps-level network. The broadband public communications networks will provide multimedia information service to the general public.

"We will come up with detailed implementation plans by October and announce the final blueprint in December," said Yun.

The project calls for a total of 44.5 trillion won of which 43.7 trillion won will be used to build broadband public communications networks. The government intends to induce the participation of communications firms to finance the network building.

For the 810 billion won needed to develop the ultraspeed national information networks, the government will use its budgets and the proceeds from the sale of Korea Telecom shares.

"The project will not only advance the general informatization of Korean society but also greatly improve the technological standards of the nation's data communications industry which are certain to become the backbone of the national economy," Yun said.

Burma

Reportage on National Convention Proceedings

Peasant Delegates Give Report

BK1208150593 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1530 GMT 11 Aug 93

["Excerpts" of reports by U Shay Re and U Tin Nyunt, from the peasant delegate group, at the plenary session of the National Convention held at the President's House compound in Rangoon on 11 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] [U Shay Re] Mr. Chairman and national convention delegates: I extend my wishes to all delegates. I am U Shay Re, a national convention peasant delegate from Loikaw Township, Kayah State. U Tin Nyunt, a national convention peasant delegate from Kemmendine Township, Yangon [Rangoon] Division, will also present the report together with me. I will present first.

A provision should be included to prescribe, due to the geographical situation of Myanmar [Burma], the current seven states and seven divisions as regions equal in status and rights.

A provision should be made to grant autonomy to the regions as needed, since the present seven states and seven divisions—due to the geographical situation of Myanmar—shall be equal in status and rights.

A provision of one basic principle, on which the fundamental principles of the state in the drafting of the state constitution should be based, shall be the objective of the nation. This is for all national races to live forever in love and unity, for a genuine democratic system to flourish, for the development of the country's living standard, and equal rights for all national races.

There is a need for the development of justice, freedom, and equality in all the regions of the national races. Only then will all the national races residing in the union be able to live in love and harmony, in accordance with the three lawkapala [eternal] principles [justice, liberty, and equality], in their own region and among the national races. Moreover, this will create more understanding among the national races and support for national solidarity. That is why basic principles should be drawn for the rule of law in all the regions of the national races.

A provision should be included for the effective sharing of the three sovereign powers between the central and regional organizations in view of national solidarity.

It is essential to find better ways to render proper help to improve the social standard of brother national races from economically and socially undeveloped regions. Suitable basic principles should be provided to accomplish these tasks for equal regional development.

With the aim of national solidarity, we must try to decrease, as much as possible, the differences in development of the regions. To be able to work more for the

least-developed regions of the national races, basic principles should be provided for regional development. [passage omitted on language, resources, economic policy, and culture]

[U Tin Nyunt] I am U Tin Nyunt, a national convention peasant delegate from Kemmendine Township, Yangon Division. I will be presenting the second part of the report.

Mr. Chairman: A provision for a systematic organization of political parties should be included for the implementation of a dignified multiparty democratic system and so that a genuine multiparty democratic system to flourish.

Mr. Chairman, since the sovereign power of the state shall lie with the people, a provision should be included that from among the three sovereign powers—legislative, administrative, and judicial—the People's Assembly shall have legislative power, while administrative power shall be distributed and delegated to central and regional administrative organizations in accordance with this constitution, and judicial power shall be shared by the central high court and regional courts.

There should be a provision to include a check and balance system [preceding four words in English] in the state's central legislature, administration, and judiciary.

There should be a provision to have a bicameral system.

The state shall have two houses of parliament, with the lower house elected by eligible voters and the upper house including an equal number of representatives elected from the 14 regions. Both houses will include representatives nominated by the commander in chief of the Defense Services.

A provision should be made for a lower house that includes a certain amount of elected representatives and an upper house made up of equal representatives selected from the 14 regions.

A provision should provide that (?special persons) selected by an election committee as representatives be able to attend both houses.

A provision to have a constitution for every region should be considered.

Esteemed Mr. Chairman, in the administration of the country, due to past political experiences, there is a possibility that a prime minister-led administrative system will be unable to perform the affairs of the state and the people effectively, and will be put out of power by a no-confidence motion. It could be seen that the government will also be unable to work effectively and diligently. That is why a presidential system of administration should be used.

A provision to have a presidential system of administration with the president elected by an electoral college [thamada yway che yay ahpwe] should be included. For the better development of the lawkapala principles of justice, freedom, and equality, all citizens should:

a. be equal under the law and abide by the law;

 b. have freedom of judgment, an open court system, and the right to defend and appeal;

c. have a union high court at the central level, with regional courts in every region and courts in the districts; d. no criminal laws shall be retroactive and no punishment that derogates human dignity shall be promulgated.

The national Defense Services came into being simultaneously with national politics because of the need of the country and the efforts of the people.

A provision for the Defense Services to participate in the legislature and administration should be included as a basic principle.

For the Defense Services to be able to work fervently in the national political leadership role, in order to be a strong and united Defense Services, it is appropriate to have a provision to make the Defense Services commander in chief the head of all armed organizations.

A provision should be added allowing the Defense Services to make necessary arrangements for the participation of the entire populace in order to create a single Defense Services.

For the Defense Services to participate worthily in the national political role, a provision should be made that only the Defense Services can freely administer Defense Services affairs.

Mr. Chairman, in the future nation, autonomous regions will emerge from the various regions, and situations threatening the lives and livelihood of the people could arise anytime. Therefore, a provision should be included for the Defense Services to defend and make necessary arrangements for regional emergency situations.

Mr. Chairman, the Defense Services have a tradition of defending the country whenever it faces a threat. Grave situations emerged in 1949, 1958, 1962, and 1988 that threatened the disintegration of the union. The only organization that saved the country from these dangers was the Defense Services, formed from all the national races. The organization that can defend the country in such situations in the future is the strong and united Defense Services. Therefore, a political provision should be included for the Defense Services commander in chief to legally take over and exercise state power when countrywide emergency situations arise. [passage omitted on provisions for economics, education, agriculture, peasants, public service personnel, youth, and religion]

Mr. Chairman, it is impossible for any country to exist by itself. That is why, to be in harmony with the countries of the world, especially with neighboring countries, there should be good relations. A provision should be provided for an independent, active, and nonaligned foreign policy and good bilateral relations.

A provision should be made in the promulgation of laws and its descriptions. With this I conclude my report. [applause]

Public Service Delegates Present Report

BK1208155593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Excerpts] The plenary session of the National Convention was held this morning at 1000 [0330 GMT] in the Central Meeting Hall at the President's House compound on Ahlone Road, Yangon [Rangoon]. [passage omitted]

The 180-page report of the public service personnel delegate group was presented in eight parts. First, U Win Zaw Nyunt and U Hkur Ba Yin submitted their reports, and the plenary session recessed for lunch at 1115.

When the plenary session continued at 1215, Lieutenant Colonel Zaw Win, U Kyaw Aye, and Brigadier General Win Hlaing continued reading the report of the group representing public service personnel. The meeting was recessed again at 1415. When the meeting resumed at 1445, Colonel Thein Ngwe, Daw Khin Than Tin, and U Tun Shwe continued reading the public service personnel delegate group's report.

The plenary session ended at 1605.

It has been learned that the plenary session of the National Convention will continue at 1000 tomorrow.

Worker Delegates Report

BK1308054293 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1530 GMT 11 Aug 93

["Extracts" of the reports of U Bo Thein and U Than Myint from the worker delegate group presented at the plenary session of the National Convention held at the President's House compound in Rangoon on 11 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] [U Bo Thein] Mr. Chairman: I am U Bo Thein, a national convention worker delegate representing Keng Tung Township, Eastern Shan State. On behalf of the worker delegate group, I will present and discuss the basic principles that should be included in Chapter 1—fundamental principles of the state.

The worker delegates believe and accept that the speech by Lieutenant General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission, and the explanations by U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, delivered at the 7 June plenary session contain vital recommendations and advice for the discussions and presentations of suggestions for fundamental principles of the state.

- Mr. Chairman, concerning the fundamental principles that should be included in prescribing the fundamental principles of the state, the national convention delegates would like to present the following suggestions:
- This country is a sovereign and independent nation with sovereign power to conduct its political, social, economic, and military affairs throughout the country without dependence on other countries and external influence;
- 2. The nation's political system is multiparty democratic political system based on the genuine democracy and which upholds the three national objectives [nondisintegration of the Union, nondisintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of national sovereignty] as a national policy;
- The three branches of state power—legislature, executive, and judiciary—shall be separate and exercised and distributed independently according to the law;
- 4. The state is the original owner of all land and natural resources above and below the ground, above and below the water, and in the atmosphere;
- The state shall not mix religion with politics; religion and politics must be kept separate;
- 6. The state shall work toward development and preservation of national culture of the national races; and
- 7. The state shall constantly practise independent, active, and nonaligned foreign policy while cooperating with other countries in a friendly manner on equal basis. [passage omitted on suggestions on economic system]

I will discuss and present the suggestions concerning the basic principles for the structure of the states. They are:

- The state boundary shall consist of existing land mass, water, and atmosphere;
- 2. The state is a union state where all national races reside in unity through weal and woe with a conviction that no territory of the state shall secede from the Union;
- The Union of Myanmar is formed with major regions which are based on existing 14 states and divisions;
- 4. Policy should be prescribed to rename the current names of the states and divisions, using historical names such as Kambawza, and Gandarawaddy which are more realistic and represent the unity among the national races. [passage omitted on head of state qualifications]
- [U Than Myint] Our worker delegates would like to suggest the following fundamental principles on the legislature, based on what should be prescribed as the basic principles of the legislature:
- 1. There should be a bicameral parliamentary system that represent the people in the country. The bicameral legislature shall be composed of People's Assembly [pyithu hluttaw] and assemblies [hluttaw] that equally represent the 14 major regions representing states and divisions;
- The two assemblies shall include representatives nominated by the commander in chief of the Defense Services;

- 3. Legislative, executive, and judicial powers shall be shared and exercised by the central and regional organs.
- Mr. Chairman, our delegates representing the workers are of the conviction that elected representatives as well as representatives of the Defense Services should participate in the sharing and execution of executive power from the central to regional levels.
- Mr. Chairman, henceforth, our national convention delegates representing the workers would like to suggest that the following fundamental principles relating to administration in chapter one of the constitution on the fundamental principles for the state be prescribed:
- 1. Administrative power of the state is to be shared, distributed, and exercised between the central and regional bodies at different levels;
- To strive to minimize the gap in development among the regions and to stress development for least developed national races:
- To form self-administered areas within the major regions, if necessary, in the country, within the prescribed restrictions; these self-administered areas shall share and exercise administrative powers;
- 4. Public service personnel shall stay free from politics; the state shall strive with utmost efforts to ensure job security and welfare for public service personnel as well as retired personnel;
- Proportionate distribution of duty for the elected representatives and representatives of the Defense Services in the central, major regions, self-adminstered areas, and district levels.

We, the national convention worker delegates, had presented suggestions and supported the participation of the Defense Services when we discussed the chapter headings for drawing up the state constitution. At the current discussions on chapter one on the fundamental principles of the state, we have likewise taken the national political view to allow the Defense Services to have a deserving role in the leading role in the national politics. [passage omitted on Defense Services' role in Burmese history, it efforts for development of border regions, internal and external threats to destabilize the Defense Services,]

I would like to suggest that the following fundamental principles concerning the Defense Services be prescribed:

- The Defense Services are responsible for safeguarding and defending the three national objectives;
- The commander in chief of the Defense Services is the head of all armed organizations in the country;
- Proportionate participation of representatives of the Defense Services nominated by the commander in chief of the Defense Services in legislative and executive bodies;
- 4. The Defense Services shall not come under the influence of any political party and the Defense Services shall remain a single strong and modern defense services.

 The Defense Services has the right to freely manage its own affairs and they must be managed only by the Defense Services; and

6. Compulsory military service for those who have

reached adulthood.

[U Maung Maung Than] [passage omitted] Worker delegates at the National Convention presented the following suggestions:

1. The president must be a person with political, administrative, economic, and military experience and must not serve a foreign power and must submit to asset scrutiny;

2. The president must be a national citizen who is loyal to the nation and the people and the spouse of the president must be born of [Myanmar] citizens parents;

3. The president is to be elected through an electoral

college;

4. Every citizen has the right to be elected and to vote and has the right to recall his or her representative. [passage on emergency powers, rehash of workers suggestions omitted] [applause]

Intelligentsia Delegates Present Report

BK1308075393 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1530 GMT 11 Aug 93

["Excerpts" of the report by the group representing members of the intelligentsia and technocrats presented at the plenary session of the National Convention on 11 August at the President's House compound, Rangoon; report read in three parts by Daw Po, progessor of the Myanmar Language Department; U Myat Thu, writer; and Daw Yee Yee Myint, associate professor of the Institute of Economics—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Daw Po] Mr. Chairman, members of the Panel of Chairmen, and delegates: [passage on introductory part, six criteria in presenting suggestions for drafting the state constitution, and the fundamental principles of the state, omitted] It is clear that, according to our historical experience, the exercise of the right to interfere in and dominate over legislative, executive, and judicial powers by a single state organ of power composed of representatives elected by the people cannot be allowed. In other words, putting it frankly, the parliamentary system of administration experienced once by the country or the parliamentary democracy system still being practised in the West and which determines the destiny of the country is absolutely unsuitable for the future state of Myanmar [Burma].

According to the political thinking of today we can no longer define a proper democratic system as a system in which the sovereign power of the state lies with the higest organ of state power—whether it is called national assembly or parliament—which is composed of representatives elected by the people. If we remain attached to the parliamentary system, we will remain prisoners of the past and will not be able to effectively serve [applause] the interests of the people.

A way should be paved for various forces in the nation to participate in the excercise of the three sovereign powers of the state as much as possible. The issue of sovereign power is a matter of national concern which does not concern the political parties alone but concerns the entire nation. Therefore, it will be necessary, not only for political parties, but also for members of the Defense Services, public service personnel, members of the intelligentsia, technocrats, artistes, peasants, workers, and national races—whether representing their respective regions, organizations, or social strata—to participate proportionately in organs of state power. [applause] In particular, arrangements should be made for their participation in the legislature. [passage reiterating suggestions omitted]

[U Myat Thu] [passage omitted] I shall present the second part of the report. Compared to neighboring countries, Myanmar is left behind in development due to various reasons. It is now the time to make decisions on and implement without delay the constructive tasks for the nation. Therefore, we should chose a presidential system of administration as the president can effectively execute the administrative machinery. [passage omitted]

The following fundamental principles should be prescribed in order to allow the Defense Services to participate in the national affairs according to the constitutional provisions:

A. The three national objectives—nondisintegration of the Union, nondisintegration of national unity, and perpetuation of national sovereignty—are the main responsibilities of the Defense Services;

B. The Defense Services, which were born out of the people during the course of the independence struggle, shall always be national defense services at one with the indigenous people and serve the people's interests and

have faith in the people's capability;

C. In order not to affect the unity of the Defense Services, the political parties shall not interfere in the affairs of the Defense Services or extend their influence; D. The Defense Services shall remain neutral with regard to the organizational activities of political parties and will remain free of party politics;

E. All armed organizations in the country, including the People's Police Force, shall come under the commander in chief of the Defense Services, and the commander in chief of the Defense Services shall take necessary measures to ensure the prevalence of local law and order and

national defense;

F. In accordance with the national policies, the commander in chief of the Defense Services can freely take measures to ensure and promote stable leadership of the Defense Services, uphold the good traditions of the Defense Services, and establish a modern defense services;

G. In order for the Defense Services to participate in the national affairs of the state together with the other national forces, representatives of the Defense Services shall be allowed to participate in various levels of the legislature and administrative bodies;

H. The Defense Services shall perform other duties as may be assigned under the constitution;

I. The Defense Services shall uphold, respect, and defend the state constitution. [passage on part of report dealing with economic policy, social welfare policy presented by Daw Yee Yee Myint omitted]

Special Invitees Present Report

BK1308071193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0630 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] The plenary session of the National Convention was held this morning at 1000 in the central meeting hall at the president's house compound on Ahlone Road, Yangon [Rangoon]. The session was attended by Lieutenant General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission [NCCC]; NCCC Vice Chairmen Lt. Gen. Maung Thint and Brigadier General Myo Thant, and commission members; U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC]; NCCWC Vice Chairman U Tha Tun and work committee members; Brig. Gen. Tin Aye, chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee [NCCMC], and NCCMC members; national convention delegates; and local and foreign journalists.

U James Bond from the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party acted as alternate chairman of the meeting and U Myo Thant, U Tun Yin Law, U Mya Sein, U Thein Lwin, U Tin Oo, U Ba Han, Lieutenant Colonel Taik Tun, and U Wan Tin served as panel members. U Khin Maung Myint, director general in charge of meetings from the NCCWC office, acted as secretary of the meeting.

Firstly, the secretary of the meeting announced the validity of the meeting as 664 of the 698 national convention delegates attended the plenary session.

Next, U Aung Hkam Ti from the special invitees delegate group submitted the report on prescribing the basic principles on which the fundamental principles of the state in the drafting of the state constitution should be based. Continuing, U Sai Nyunt Lwin of the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy from the political parties delegate group presented the report and the plenary session recessed for lunch at 1130.

It is understood that the afternoon session of the National Convention Plenary Session is still in progress at the president's house compound on Ahlone Road.

SLORC Releases 18 Detainees

BK1208151293 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] It has been learned that 18 male detainees, against whom action was taken under existing laws and who were serving their sentences, have been released today from Insein Central Jail and Bassein Jail after their remaining sentences were commuted in accordance with

Declaration No. 11/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC].

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

U.S. Trade Policy 'More Positive' Under Clinton

BK1308103193 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in

English 0800 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Bill Clinton is adopting a more positive and considerate approach than his predecessor in U.S. relations with developing countries. Two days ago, Clinton signed into law the Budget Reconciliation Act, which includes a provision to renew the Generalized System of Preferences or GSP until September 30th next year.

This is welcome news for Malaysia and nearly 150 other countries which currently enjoy GSP privileges. The Clinton administration's move marked the defeat for the American non-governmental organizations, NGOs, which have [been] pressing for the removal of Malaysia from the GSP program. The new U.S. budget practise, which was enacted by Congress last Friday, would also allow exporters from GSP beneficiary countries like Malaysia to request for a refund of duties being paid for the exports to the U.S. between July this year and Tuesday this week. The amount of (?claims) may be small, but the U.S. gesture is welcomed. The GSP scheme is now 17 and one-half years old since it came into operations on 1 January 1976. It was originally scheduled for 10 years but was extended until July 4th this year.

Malaysia is at present the second largest GSP beneficiary. The number one spot is occupied by Mexico, which is likely to lose the GSP status when the North American Free Trade Agreement or NAFTA comes into being, probably next year. That will make Malaysia the top GSP beneficiary. Malaysia is not asking for financial aid, but only seeks duty-free access for its manufactured goods to the American market. Last year Malaysia accounted for US\$2.5 billion out of a total of US\$16.7 billion worth of goods imported by the U.S. under the GSP program. Malaysian goods that enter the U.S. market are mainly electronic goods.

A visiting U.S. scholar said in Kuala Lumpur this week that last year Malaysia was the largest exporter to the U.S. with goods valued at US\$8.3 billion, while Malaysia's imports from the U.S. were worth US\$4.4 billion. Thus there is a trade surplus of US\$8.9 billion in Malaysia's favor. But these figures are rather insignificant when compared with Japan's US\$49.4 billion surplus, China's 18.3 billion, and Taiwan's 9.4 billion. Malaysia ranks seventh among countries with trade surpluses with the U.S. But it is heartening to know that

the U.S. is not taking unkindly to those countries which enjoy trade surpluses. If it takes retaliatory measures against those with large surpluses, we hope that the U.S. Administration will adopt a more conciliatory approach to developing countries like Malaysia. Slapping punitive measures on imports from Malaysia should not be made a norm to reduce trade imbalances. That is why Malaysia is happy to hear that there would not be a change in the U.S. trading rules with Malaysia.

Malaysia welcomes such assurance.

Mahathir 'Pessimistic' NATO Will Act on Bosnia BK1308055093 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0333 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug. 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said he was pessimistic countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) can execute their threat to launch air strikes on Serbs besieging Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He said NATO had failed several times to fulfil its threats and the Serbs no longer took the warning seriously.

I am pessimistic (over the NATO threats), he told reporters when asked about NATO's warning to strike the Serbs unless they released their siege of Sarajevo. Dr. Mahathir had earlier launched the heart week organised by the Malaysian Heart Foundation at a shopping complex here.

The failure of NATO, he said, had made the Serbs act as they wished and countries which often take of justice were unable to stop them. The Serbs will continue (with their atrocities). They will kill and they will rape. They will torture people because those who talk of justice and fair play are not prepared to do anything, he said.

Dr. Mahathir said he hoped that United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali would use the authority vested in him to order the air strikes on the Serbs.

He said Malaysia had written to the leaders of several of the countries concerned—Britain, the United States, Germany, France, and Belgium—to act immediately to end the atrocities against the people of Bosnia.

The government had also written to Butrus-Ghali, he said.

But we can do only that, he added.

Singapore

Official Economic Growth Forecasts More Accurate

BK1208153693 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Aug 93 p 36

[By Phua Kok Kim]

[Text] Official forecasts of economic growth tend to be conservative but have become more accurate in recent years.

This was revealed in a STRAITS TIMES study of forecasts made by the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) on the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate since 1985.

The study found that MTI quarterly projections of the annual GDP growth rate have usually been lower than the final actual growth each year.

(The exceptions were 1991 when the actual annual rate fell within the official forecasts, and 1985 when the first quarter forecast of 5 to 7 per cent contrasted with the 1.8 per cent contraction that eventually took place.) For example, in the first quarter of 1986, MTI forecast a 1.5 per cent contraction for the year but the economy grew by 1.8 per cent that year.

And in the second quarter of 1987, the ministry forecast that the year's GDP growth rate would be 6 to 7 per cent. As it turned out, the economy expanded by 8.8 per cent.

But for the years 1990 to 1992, forecasts made in the first quarter have been much closer to the actual performance.

For example, the actual 6.7 per cent GDP growth for 1991 fell within the forecasts of 6-8 per cent and 6.5-7 per cent.

And last year's 5.8 per cent rate was just marginally higher than the third quarter estimate of 5.5 per cent.

The study also found that not unexpectedly, in recent years as more information become available on how the economy was doing, MTI's forecast range narrowed.

The third quarter forecast was usually spot on or not far from the mark.

An economist contacted yesterday said MTI's regular revisions of its forecasts were not surprising as it reflected the difficulty of projecting growth for a small and open economy.

Dr. Ong Nai Pew, research director at Union Bank of Switzerland, said that with two-thirds of the Republic's growth dependent on external demand, projecting performance is difficult even within a short time frame.

But he said he believed the ministry has a "good feel" of the overall economic pulse as it talks to industry experts and large traders.

Dr. Ong said MTI's estimates was "properly conservative."

Also, "who can predict events such as a bull run in the stock market?" he said.

A bullish stock market lifted Singapore's financial services sub-sector to a 20-per cent growth in the second

quarter of this year, which in turn helped boost overall economic growth to a handsome 10.1 per cent.

As a result, this year's growth forecast has now been revised for the third time: From the 5 to 6 per cent range made in the third quarter last year, to 6 to 7 per cent in the first quarter this year, and now to 7.5 to 8 per cent.

Cambodia

Government Urges KR Cadres To Return to 'Fold'

BK1208145193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Aug 93

["Appeal by the Cochairmen of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia and the Co-Commanders in Chief of the Cambodian National Armed Forces"—read by announcer]

[Text] The cochairmen of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC] and co-commanders in chief of the Cambodian National Armed Forces [CNAF] wish to inform the compatriots, officers, and rank and file of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] that following the general elections:

- 1. The prince father has been the head of state and supreme commander of the CNAF;
- 2. The Constituent Assembly has actively been performing its task for the sake of the nation's interests;
- 3. The PNGC has been formed in keeping with the people's will and has been recognized and supported internationally; and
- 4. Armies have been unified and established as the national armed forces.

As such, it is nonsensical that you, officers and combatants of the PDK, continue to live in the jungle in compliance with your leaders' rigid policy that brings nothing to our country and nation but the continued destructive war.

We, the PNGC cochairmen and co-commanders in chief of the CNAF, call on all of you, officers and rank and file of the PDK, to return immediately to the national fold within the great Cambodian family as praiseworthy citizens. You will be provided with rights and freedoms and will receive advantages and positions according to your ability and achievements. You will also be recognized and included in the CNAF.

State institutions in all sectors and at all levels are waiting to welcome you everywhere and at all times.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 12 August 1993

[Signed] Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranadiddh, His Excellency Hun Sen

Government Cochairmen Commend Armed Forces

BK1208123993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Message of commendation from Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, cochairmen of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia, to members of the Cambodian National Armed Forces—read by announcer]

[Text] In view of the achievements made by all of you, officers and combatants of the Cambodian National Armed Forces [CNAF], in national defense, and especially in ensuring tranquility for the people in Stoung District of Kompong Thom Province recently, we, cochairmen of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia and co-commanders in chief of the CNAF, wish to commend all of you for your courageous and audacious activities, your sacrifices, and your recent successes.

We would like to extend our sympathies to the combatants who have fallen or been wounded on active duty, and to pay our tribute to the souls of the compatriots who have fallen bravely and valiantly. We wish the wounded officers and rank and file a quick recovery so they will be able to rejoin their families and units soon. May all of you enjoy the five blessings of Lord Buddha that is, longevity, social prestige, happiness, strength, and enlightenment.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 12 August 1993

[Signed] Five-Star Supreme General Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh; Five-Star Supreme General His Excellency Hun Sen

KR Call for 'Immediate' Meeting To Set Up Army

BK1208040393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Aug 93

["Open letter of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea Demanding Round Table Talks as Directed by the Prince Father on 13 July 1993"; date, place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Cambodian nation and people have made further efforts to rally national forces to thwart the maneuvers of the Vietnamese aggressors and a small group of Vietnam's out-and-out lackeys and their allies to split national forces. The nation and people call for immediate round table talks in accordance with the Prince Father's guidance.

His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], proposed on 1 March 1993 a national reconciliation plan with the noble intention of achieving Cambodia's union, peace, and security. The Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] has welcomed and actively

assisted and supported this national reconciliation plan of the prince. Later on, the prince again and again appealed for national reconciliation among all Cambodian sides and for the nonexclusion of any side.

His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, PDK chairman and SNC member, went to see the prince head of state at the royal palace in Phnom Penh on 13 July 1993. At that time, H.E. Khieu Samphan informed the prince that he and the PDK fully supported the national reconciliation and put forward the following two-point proposal:

- That the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] be included in a single national army to avoid armed clashes; and
- 2. That the PDK representative have an advisory role.

The prince head of state and SNC chairman expressed joy with this two-point proposal by H.E. Khieu Samphan and the PDK saying that this proposal is reasonable and correct. The prince agreed in principle with the PDK proposal. And in order to achieve reconciliation, the prince recently proposed a round table meeting at the royal palace in mid-September 1993 under his chairmanship with the attendance of Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, H.E. Son Sann, H.E. Khieu Samphan, and H.E. Hun Sen. The entire Cambodian nation and people inside and outside the country have expressed satisfaction and full assistance and support to the prince's national reconciliation plan, the PDK's two-point proposal, and the prince's proposal for a round table meeting in mid-September 1993.

The overwhelming majority of peace- and justice-loving countries the world over have also welcomed and provided full assistance and support to the prince's proposal for the round table meeting because they clearly realize that only the national reconciliation plan and these proposals can really lead to national reconciliation and peace for Cambodia. The NADK, the entire Cambodian nation and people, and the majority of countries the world over realize that the PDK's two-point proposal is more than reasonable and is a proposal full of lofty patriotism. It is a proposal of the lowest degree; it does not interfere in the new government and in competing for power, not even for a single ministerial seat.

Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnam's puppets and allies, and a small group in UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], however, are very concerned about Cambodian national reconciliation. They have actively and resolutely opposed this national reconciliation. The prince was very angry and decided not to hold the round table talks. The prince, however, suggested that Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and H.E. Hun Sen organize round table talks to discuss the PDK's two-point proposal.

The Vietnamese aggressors, a number of Vietnam's out-and-out puppets, and lackeys, however, carried out

all kinds of activities—military, political, and diplomatic—to oppose national reconciliation. As for their allies, they use money and pledges to give money and supplies in order to:

- 1. Politically prevent the round table talks as proposed by the prince. These people remain indifferent to this round table meeting. They are trying to maintain the 3-million strong Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia. They have allowed new Vietnamese nationals to flow into Cambodia. They have preserved the Vietnamese aggressors' state authority, which Vietnam set up in 1979. They have allowed this state authority, particularly the cruet puppet troops and police, to continue maltreating and attacking the people and the resistance forces. The people have been pursued and murdered at will.
- 2. Militarily, they have made efforts to mix the troops of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] with the army of Vietnam's puppets. The puppet army has been left completely intact and expanded and strengthened while there are only a few hundred FUNCINPEC troops within the 150,000-strong army of Vietnam's puppets. They have made efforts to dupe others saying that this army of Vietnam's puppets is a national army or the army of the prince, and so on.

The Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and allies have done this in order to split national forces so they can grab and seize interests from the Cambodian people. The Cambodian nation and people have clearly seen this. Three million Vietnamese aggressor forces are spreading and annexing 80 to 90 percent of the territory, forest, rivers, lakes, and vilages of the Cambodian people in eastern and central Cambodia. The cruel troops and police, set up by Vietnam since 1979, continue to oppress and kill the people.

The Cambodian nation and people categorically oppose the maneuvers of the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets and allies inside and outside UNTAC who oppose and destroy the national reconciliation plan of the prince and who oppose and destroy the PDK's two-point proposal.

Faced with such a situation, the Cambodian nation and people hold that further unity should be forged and that national forces should be rallied more firmly to oppose the maneuver of the Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnam's puppets, and allies whose aim is to split national forces through the use of money; supplies; and military, political, and diplomatic means.

The Cambodian nation and people want national reconciliation, peace, independence, and sovereignty with territorial integrity as it was before 1970. The Cambodian nation and people assist and support the prince's national reconciliation plan and the PDK's two-point proposal and call for an immediate round table meeting to organize a complete national army as directed by the prince head of state.

Regime Claims Counteroffensive Kills 18 Khmer Rouge

BK1308074493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0730 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, Aug 13 (AFP)—Cambodian Government forces launched a counter-offensive on Khmer Rouge strongholds in central Cambodia, reportedly killing 18 guerrillas and capturing some 75 others, UN and government officials said Friday. "We taught them a very good lesson. It was a great success," a government general, who declined to be identified, said. The general said government troops responded to Khmer Rouge attacks on their forces in the Stung area of Kompong Thom, repelling them about 50 kilometers (30 miles) north to Kryia.

His version was substantiated by a diplomatic source who said Khmer Rouge guerrillas closing in on Stung town and National Route 6 over the last three weeks had reportedly displaced 5,000 Cambodians with a heavy artillery campaign. UN military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel John Weiland confirmed that government troops had launched an offensive on Khmer Rouge controlled areas early this week.

The government troops attacked guerrilla strongholds in the Krayia and Sakream districts of the militarily contested province of Kompong Thom in central Cambodia, Weiland said. "National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (Khmer Rouge) forces retreated into the jungle around Sakream," he said.

The peacekeepers were not able to confirm the number of Khmer Rouge killed or captured, he said. But deputy minister of Public Security Sin Sen said the government forces killed some 18 guerrillas and captured about 75, some of whom were villagers armed by the radical faction.

The government general said many of the villagers, who acted as porters or assistants to the guerrillas, were later released. "We asked the villagers to swear not to continue fighting us and then we released many of them, so I don't have the exact figures of how many were arrested," he said.

Government troops destroyed more than 100 weapons stored in a warehouse during the attack and confiscated 300 other weapons as well as 68 rocket-propelled grenades, the general said. "Two of our soldiers were killed and four to five wounded," he said. [passage omitted]

Recent Khmer Rouge Military Activities Reported

KR Activities, Maneuvering in Battambang

BK1308105993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Democratic Kampuchean troops from Divisions 415 and 312 recently carried out activities in Battambang Province against positions of the Cambodian National Armed Forces [CNAF] in the province and the positions of Division 196.

Sources specify that these Democratic Kampuchean troops plan to attack the Kamping Puoy and O Pong Moan sectors, which are areas of the CNAF. Along with this, some of the Democratic Kampuchean troops have also been dispatched to the southern part of National Route 10 and west of Moung Russei District with the aim of cutting bridges and water ducts along National Route 5 and the railway track in this area.

Attacks in Siem Reap 7-9 Aug

BK1308063693 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0400 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 13 Aug (SPK)—An attack launched on 9 August by the Khmer Rouge against a PNGC (Provisional National Government of Cambodia) position at Trach Monastery, about 10 km from the Siem Reap provincial seat, resulted in one government soldier killed and two others missing.

The Khmer Rouge insurgents blew up the Khum Damrei Chhlang and Thnal Kandal bridges on National Route 6 in Chikreng District on 8 August.

On 7 and 8 August, 220 Khmer Rouge soldiers from the same division infiltrated the Khna Pou and Chan communes to prepare attacks against the Siem Reap provincial and district seats.

Attacks, Other Activities 5-8 Aug

BK1308105393 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Along with attacking and overrunning Preah Vihear Temple and detaining UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] peacekeepers for 12 hours last week, the Khmer Rouge rebels also sent reinforcements to Choam Khsan District with the aim of completely capturing the area. According to a military report, the Khmer Rouge rebels moved their troops to an area some 7 km north of the Choam Khsan district town on 5 August and some 250-300 Khmer Rouge soldiers attacked a position of the Cambodian National Armed Forces [CNAF] at 1600 that day. During the battle, the Khmer Rouge troops surrounded our troops, which were only able to break the encirclement at 1800.

On the morning of 6 August, Khmer Rouge rebels launched two offensive attacks on the 19th battalion command post, but the CNAF forces were able to hold them back and defend the post. At present, they continue to besiege the Choam Khsan District seat some 3 or 4 km from the center of town, causing the local people to become extremely agitated. In the same province on 7 August at about 0930, Khmer Rouge rebels carried out a vigorous attack on the CNAF forces. Some overran the 3d Battalion's position at Sdau while others encircled the Sangkum Thmei district township. The national government troops counterattacked and were able to retake the position by midnight.

In Stung Treng Province on 8 August at 0700, Khmer Rouge rebels conducted military operations against the Anlung Khiev commune, forcibly seizing 73 firearms, including 28 AK and 43 SKS assault rifles and two 40-mm machine guns, from local militiamen. Some 30 Khmer Rouge elements conducted military activities in Thalabarivat District, especially at Chamka Leu Commune. Their goal was to attack and disarm village guards in every locality.

And at 2230 on 6 August in Kompong Cham Province, a group of Khmer Rouge rebels from the 73d battalion of Division 417, planted mines, blowing up the O Da bridge in Prey Chhor District.

Given these destructive activities, one must ask whether the Party of Democratic Kampuchea is sincere in wanting to return and rebuild the national community. His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, has already said that it is not possible for any Cambodian to create autonomous regions or resort to secession to divide our unique nation, and that the Paris accord also stipulates that Cambodia is unique.

7-9 Aug Military Activities, Attacks

BK1308083693 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] According to reports from the Operations Department of the Cambodian National Armed Forces [CNAF], the Democratic Kampuchea [DK] forces have continued to attack with ground troops and shell the CNAF. They have also gathered troops in order to destabilize the livelihood of the people living in some areas in Preah Vihear, Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Kompong Cham Provinces, and so on.

Preah Vihear Province was most seriously affected. Some 250-300 DK soldiers from the 616th and 612d divisions attacked the 3d CNAF battalion's troops stationed at Kdau Commune, Sangkum Thmei District, Preah Vihear Province on 7 August. Exercising their rights of self-defense, the CNAF troops counterattacked, killing two DK soldiers on the spot and wounding 21 others and seizing one firearm and a quantity of assorted ammunition. However, the CNAF lost one combatant and an ICOM radio communications set and a gun.

Early last week in Siem Reap Province, DK forces from the 980th and 912th divisions carried out military operations especially in Chikreng, Sot Nikom, and Siem Reap Districts. On 9 August, they attacked four CNAF positions in an area south of Banteay Srei District. However, exercising the rights of self-defense, the CNAF troops were able to safely defend those positions.

In Kompong Thom Province, DK forces carried out military activities in Stoung District and fired two artillery shells on the township of Sandan District. As in Banteay Meanchey Province, troops from DK 450th, 320d, and 519th divisions were gathering in areas North of Soeng and South of Route National 5. They were reportedly preparing to launch an attack on Poipet seat and carry out assaults on Thmei District and the provincial town of Banteay Meanchey.

Specifically in the west of Battambang Province, DK troops from the 415th and 320th divisions were moving closer to the position of Battambang Province's armed forces and the position of the 196th CNAF division there.

It is reported that the DK troops had raided the CNAF's positions in Komping Puoy and O Pong Moan areas and that they had also sent some of their troops to areas south of Route National 10 and west of Moung Russei District in an attempt to cut off the Moli bridge on National Route 5 and bridges along the railroad in the areas.

KR Suspected of Killing 6 Ethnic Vietnamese

BK1108140093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1104 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, Aug 11 (AFP)—Suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas have massacred six ethnic Vietnamese, including three children, in their home in Cambodia's central Kompong Chhnang province, the scene of recent Khmer Rouge ethnic cleansing tactics, UN and government officials said Wednesday. The gunmen attacked a house, home to two ethnic Vietnamese fishing families, in the Chul Kiri District of Kompong Chhnang Province early Tuesday, UN spokesman Eric Falt said. They killed a 63-year-old man and a 17-year-old boy from one family, as well as a 72-year-old man, a 15-year-old boy, a 13-year-old girl, and a 36-year-old woman from the second family.

The United Nations did not blame the Khmer Rouge, but a local newspaper quoted Cambodian Interior Ministry officials as saying Khmer Rouge guerrillas were suspected. UN peacekeepers had no details of how the Vietnamese were killed and were investigating the murders, Falt said. The UN peacekeepers recently blamed the Khmer Rouge for a resurgence of ethnic violence in Kompong Chhnang Province, a rich fishing area. A number of Khmer Rouge attacks in the area in July claimed the lives of 11 ethnic Vietnamese fishermen and their families. [passage omitted]

Khieu Samphan 10 Aug Message to UNTAC Chief

BK1308071993 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Aug 93

["Messsage from His Excellency Khieu Samphan to His Excellency Yasushi Akashi, UN representative and head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia"; dated 10 August—read by announcer]

[Text] To His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi, UN representative and head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], Phnom Penh

Your Excellency: I have received your letter dated 4 August 1993. Concerning the issues you raised in your letter, the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] has continuously clarified its view and stance to you. It is not that you are unaware of the PDK's view and stance because they are no different from the view and stance of the entire Cambodian nation and people in rural areas, in Phnom Penh, and abroad.

The Cambodian nation and people, like the PDK, hold such a view and stance because they have been victims, with their flesh and blood, of Vietnam's war of aggression since 25 December 1978. This is not a light matter. They have been victims and have lost land, rice fields, villages, and homes. In some cases entire families were killed by the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnamese settlers. They have been victims to the point that their territory could become a second Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory now part of southern Vietnam]. Therefore, no one can falsify this truth. It is not the Cambodian nation and people who are aggressors and the ones violating human rights and humanitarian principles.

Who are the aggressors? Who are the ones killing the Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian national resistance forces? This issue should be clearly stated.

With this aim, I would like to remind you of the following facts and of the PDK's view:

I. The truth is that the Vietnamese aggressors invaded and occupied Cambodia on 25 December 1978 using 250,000 genuine Vietnamese troops and another 50,000-strong force to control the state authority. This is a fact no one can deny.

With the assistance and support of people and peaceand justice-loving countries the world over, the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces have persistently waged a guerrilla war and a people's war against these Vietnamese aggressors with the highest spirit of love for their nation, people, and race. This has dealt one setback after another to the Vietnamese aggressors, until they were compelled to sign the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

II. Since 23 October 1991, the international community has entrusted the United Nations and UNTAC with the task of solving and ending Vietnam's war of aggression in accordance with the Paris agreement. However, allies inside and outside UNTAC have not implemented the essence of the Paris agreement. In fact, they have not at all checked that Vietnam has withdrawn from Cambodia. They have even drafted laws to protect old and new Vietnamese.

It was in such a situation that the Hanoi Vietnamese continued the strategy of actively and systematically bringing new people to Cambodia. By the time of the Paris agreement in October 1991, the following old Vietnamese forces were in Cambodia:

A. 250,000 Vietnamese troops;

B. 50,000 Vietnamese responsible for administrative affairs; and

C. Nearly one million Vietnamese nationals.

However, since 23 October 1991, for all of 1992, and in early 1993 the number of Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia has been increasing to nearly 3 million, an addition of nearly 2 million people at a time when UNTAC is administering Cambodia. These Vietnamese have not come as ordinary people. They have come with weapons and rely on Vietnam's state authority already in existence in Phnom Penh and Cambodian provinces and districts. They have taken over villages, houses, lakes, and fishing lots. They have plundered the Cambodian people's fish, forests, and all kinds of property.

So the Paris agreement has not been implemented. Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia also has not been terminated. The Vietnamese aggressors have changed only the form of their aggression, namely, from a full-scale military aggression to a form using people instead.

In such a situation, the Cambodian nation and people must rely on themselves to defend their lives and territory within the framework of their country and its borders, villages, rivers, and lakes. UNTAC, allies inside and outide UNTAC, the Vietnamese aggressors, and a handful of their puppets and lackeys have been constantly shouting in defense of the Vietnamese about such a degree of struggle by the Cambodian people. Only a few Vietnamese had fled by boats and by sea to various countries in Southeast Asia from 1979 to 1990, to Hong Kong and Australia for example. Yet people were alarmed and sent these Vietnamese back to their own country. What is this? Human rights, humanitarianism? Does this not depend merely on what these allies say?

III. After the UNTAC election, the result was in FUNCINPEC's [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] favor. The PDK assisted the FUNCINPEC Party, which is a national resistance force, so FUNCINPEC could go along with the election trend and result, in accordance with the universal spirit and principle practised in Cambodia and the world: that is, for FUNCINPEC, the winning party, to organize a new government and a constituent assembly to draft a national constitution and set up a national government.

However, the Vietnamese aggressors have occupied Cambodia for more than 14 years. Vietnam's puppets and allies have opposed the result of the UNTAC election. They have made efforts to create rifts, manipulate, apply pressure, and force the setting up of a two-headed

provisional government in Cambodia, that is, a government with two prime ministers, a Ministry of National Defense with two ministers, and a Ministry of Interior and Security with two ministers. In the history of Cambodia and of the world, there has never been such a two-headed government because nothing would get done. Through this two-headed government Vietnam's state authority is maintained. And because of this, nearly 3-million-strong old and new Vietnamese aggressor forces continue to occupy Cambodia.

The aim of the overwhelming majority of the Cambodian people in taking part in the UNTAC election was to set up a national government defending the nation's interest and to organize the country so that Cambodia has national reconciliation and peace with independence, sovereignty, and full territorial integrity. The Cambodian nation and people do not want Vietnam's regime and the state authority set up by Vietnam. They do not want dubious dealings.

At present there is a two-headed government at the top, but at the bottom it is entirely the state authority of the Vietnamese aggressors. Vietnam is currently implementing a strategy of stroking the top while eliminating and destroying the bottom. This is why there is constant oppression and maltreatment of the Cambodian people. This Vietnamese state authority has persecuted members of FUNCINPEC, the election winner. The people who voted for FUNCINPEC have been arrested and persecuted. The number of people who have fled the persecution of the Vietnamese aggressors' state authority and are staying in Democratic Kampuchean zones nationwide is currently in the tens of thousands. Tens of thousands of others are scattered in other areas. Up to hundreds of FUNCINPEC members have died.

IV. Therefore, the PDK is not the defendant but the plaintiff. The Vietnamese aggressors' state authority, set up, expanded, and consolidated by Vietnam since 1979, is the defendant. The Vietnamese aggressors have been condemned and already sentenced by the Cambodian people.

The situation has evolved this far. What should be done to solve it? The PDK holds that in order to solve this:

- 1. Foreigners should stop interfering in Cambodia's internal affairs.
- 2. A solution should be based on the national reconciliation plan of His Royal Highness (HRH) Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, which has been assisted and supported by the Cambodian nation and people and the majority of the world.

Responding to the appeal by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk for national reconciliation, the PDK went to Phnom Penh and put forward the following two-point proposal calling for: 1) the setting up of a quadripartite national army including the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea; and 2) an advisory role for the PDK representative with a request that Cambodians talk

among themselves and solve national problems in accordance with the guidance of the prince head of state concerning national reconciliation, peace, independence, national unity, sovereignty, and Cambodian territorial integrity.

In sum, the PDK holds and firmly believes that only the national reconciliation plan of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, can lead to Cambodia's national reconciliation, peace, independence, unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Please accept my high consideration.

[Dated] 10 August 1993

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, PDK chairman and member of the Supreme National Council

AFP Cited on Stranded Vietnamese Refugees on Border

BK1108134593 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1109 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP August 11—The United Nations will begin an emergency aid programme for ethnic Vietnamese stranded at the Vietnam-Cambodia border following Phnom Penh's continuing refusal to let them re-enter Cambodia, the head of the UN peace-keeping mission was quoted by AFP as saying Tuesday.

Yasushi Akashi was speaking after a meeting with Cambodia co-premiers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, where he advocated the right of return for 25,000 ethnic Vietnamese who fled the country in March and April to escape a Khmer Rouge ethnic cleansing campaign.

Akashi visited some of the refugees moored alongside the country's riverine border checkpoints last week and told the government of their plight. But the co-premiers refused to budge.

"They (Hun Sen and Prince Ranariddh) are not prepared at this time to say that these people can come back, but this is a matter which we will continue to discuss," Akashi said.

Akashi said the United Nations will provide food through the World Food Programme in the next few days. The refugees have complained that the stretches of the Mekong and Basak rivers where they are moored have been fished out.

They recently told UN officials they were reduced to catching water rats.

They wished to return despite a recent resurgence in Khmer Rouge ethnic violence, which has claimed the lives of 11 ethnic Vietnamese in July, a UN information report obtained by AFP said.

Hundreds of thousands of ethnic Vietnamese live in Cambodia, the descendants of fishermen who have lived off the country's great lake, the Tonle Sap, for generations.

"We can either die of starvation here or get killed by the Pol Pot gang there. Either way we are dead," one refugee was quoted by the UN report as saying.

Akashi said he pointed out that many of the refugees had Cambodian identity cards and a legitimate right to return. But the government was refusing to let them return for both political and moral reasons, he said.

"They, the government, consider that is it not quite safe for them to come back. If you say it is safe, you are responsible for their safety," Akashi said citing the Cambodian arguments.

To allow the Vietnamese to return would also be a vastly unpopular move for the new government as anti-Vietnamese feeling is endemic in Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge prey on this racism for support and would likely try to exploit a government decision to let the refugees return.

A government official said recently that the ethnic Vietnamese could not return as the government did not have in place any immigration laws and because the country had an unemployment problem.

Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen refused to comment to reporters after the meeting with Akashi, civilian head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Asked if he was disappointed by the Cambodian refusal, Akashi replied: "If I am so easily disappointed in my task I will not be here. I would have gone from Cambodia a long time ago. I am a very persistent man."

The next step, he said, was to get the emergency aid to the refugees as quickly as possible.

Government Cochairmen Leave for Bangkok 12 Aug

BK1208131893 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1105 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP August 12—Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, co-presidents of the Interim National Government of Cambodia (INGC), left here Thursday afternoon for Bangkok on an official visit to Thailand.

The visit, scheduled for August 12-14, is made at the invitation of Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai. It is the second overseas visit by the INGC co-presidents, after the formation of this interim coalition administration in July.

The first visit was rendered to Laos from July 28-31.

Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen were accompanied by State Minister Hor Namhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Prince Norodom Sirivut, and other officials.

They were seen off at Pochentong Airport by a number of top officials of INGC. Thai Ambassador to Cambodia Sunai Bunyasiriphan was also present.

The visit is expected to focus on the improvement of trade, transportation, and communications links between the two countries and to solve the nagging border problems.

Agricultural Statistics Noted; Floods Damage Crops

BK1108063993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Reports from the Agronomy Department say that by early August our compatriot peasants nationwide had plowed over 817,000 hectares of rainy season rice land; over 680,000 hectares were plowed using draft animals. Over 111,000 hectares of various types of rice have also been sowed and more than 368,000 hectares of rice transplanted and planted through various procedures. This represents over 17 percent of the area planned.

Compared with the previous year's rainy season, this is an increase of over 10,000 hectares. The cities and provinces that have performed well are Battambang with over 52 percent achieved, Kompong Thom with over 42 percent, and Banteay Meanchey with over 39 percent. In Kompong Thom Province, however, floods have destroyed over 4,200 hectares of rice transplants and rice plants while Kandal Province has lost 72 hectares.

During the same period, our peasants have planted over 46,700 hectares of assorted crops, including over 25,800 hectares of corn, over 3,900 hectares of potatoes, over 5,000 hectares of assorted beans, over 1,600 hectares of sesame, over 1,500 hectares of sugar cane, and over 10,000 hectares of vegetables.

Indonesia

Suharto Reduces Sentence of E. Timor Rebei Leader

BK1308094493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0923 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 13 (AFP)—President Suharto has converted a life sentence handed down on captured East Timorese pro-independence Leader Xanana Gusmao to a 20-year jail term, State Secretary Murdiono said Friday. "The president, after considering proposals from the Supreme Court and the justice minister, has granted clemencies to a number of East Timorese," Murdiono said, adding that the list included Jose Alexander Gusmao alias Xanana Gusmao. For Gusmao, who was

sentenced to life imprisonment in May, "the clemency given is the changing of the sentence from life to 20 years imprisonment," Murdiono said.

He said the clemency, based on a presidential decree dated Tuesday, was given because, according to Suharto, Gusmao had publicly "admitted his guilt and mistakes" and "had accepted the integration of East Timor" into Indonesia. The minister said Gusmao's government-appointed lawyer, Sujono, had submitted a plea for presidential pardon in June.

Meanwhile, the official ANTARA News Agency quoted central Java provincial police chief Sugijo as saying that, as of Friday, Gusmao was an inmate of the Kedungpane jail at the provincial capital of Semarang. Major General Sugijo said Gusmao arrived from Dili by a special flight, landing at the air force base in Semarang an hour after midnight (1800 GMT Thursday). He said that while Gusmao will be treated as other prisoners but that he was given a "special place." He did not elaborate.

Gusmao was head of the Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] East Timorese proindependence movement from 1979 until his arrest in Dili, East Timor, in November. An Indonesian court in Dili found him guilty of plotting against the state and illegal possession of firearms and jailed him to life. Fretilin has provided armed resistance since Indonesian troops invaded the former Portuguese colony of East Timor in 1975. Jakarta unilaterally declared East Timor its 27th province in 1976, but the move has remained urecognised by the United Nations.

Murdiono said two other Fretilin members, Carlos dos Santos Lemos and Bonifacio Martinho Pereira, each obtained two-year reductions in sentence from the president. Pereira was sentenced to six years' imprisonment in 1992 for his alleged involvement in pro-independence activities that led to the bloody Dili massacre on November 12. Scores of East Timorese civilians died when Indonesian troops opened fire on an otherwise peaceful rally. Lemos was sentenced to eight years in prison for his alleged involvement in a series of "anti-government activities" aimed at separating the former Portuguese colony of East Timor from Indonesia.

Under Indonesian law, the president can grant a pardon to prisoners based on the recommendation of the Supreme Court and the chief justice. Sentence reductions are usually granted around the anniversary of Indonesia's national day on August 17.

Portuguese Businessmen on Business, Cultural Visit

BK1308023593 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Three Portuguese businessmen sympathetic to Indonesia grouped in the Portugal-Indonesia Solidarity Association arrived in Jakarta yesterday for a 12-day business and cultural visit to Indonesia. The three Portuguese businessmen are Manuel Macedo, Gaspal Lopes Rosa, and Jose Martins. According to Macedo, their visit to Indonesia is at the invitation of Lopes da Cruz, Indonesia's roving ambassador with a special task, to develop cultural and economic cooperation between the two countries. When asked whether they would visit East Timor, Jose Martins said they considered East Timor equal to other Indonesian provinces and saw no need to visit East Timor because their visit had no relevance to the province.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Lopes da Cruz said the visit of the Portuguese businessmen was unrelated to the current U.S. pressure regarding human rights. Their visit is informal. They just want to seek Indonesian business partners and explore the possibility of investing in Indonesia. According to Lopes da Cruz, they always defend Indonesia's position in television, radio, or press debates in their country.

[Begin Da Cruz recording] They always defend Indonesia's position in television, radio, or press debates in their country. They say that the best way for East Timor is integration with Indonesia. Being right-wingers and anti-communist, they are very sympathetic to us. They highly appreciate Indonesia's ability to conquer communism during the rebellion staged by the 30 September Movement. Indonesia was successful even though communism was at that time at its high ebb in several parts of the world such as Indochina and Latin America. Thus, they highly appreciate our success in conquering communism here. [end recording]

While in Indonesia, the three Portuguese businessmen sympathetic to Indonesia will call on the trade minister and visit the Nusantara Aircraft Industry in Bandung apart from listening to President Suharto's state address at the House of Representatives on 16 August.

Minister Downplays Economic 'Policy Differences'

BK1108130393 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 11 Aug 93 p 3

[By Yang Razali Kassim in Bali]

(Text) Indonesia's coordinating minister for trade and industry yesterday played down policy differences between two main groups of ministers responsible for economic planning in President Suharto's cabinet.

Mr. Hartarto's comments were probably among the few occasions if not the only public reference by a high-ranking minister to the widely-debated gulf in policy thinking between technocrats who advocate growth through nonoil exports and ministers who want a technology-driven economy.

Mr. Hartarto, in an exclusive interview with BUSINESS TIMES, said the economic technocrats had been working "very well" with ministers who have come to be

dubbed the "technologists" despite their conflicting ideas on how the economy should be steered in the 1990's.

In the interview on the state of the economy, before delivering the keynote address at the conference on Indonesia, the Asia Pacific and the New World Order, Mr. Hartarto said there had been no major shift from the macroeconomic policy of the past that had set Indonesia off on moderate but steady growth.

If there was a new emphasis now, he said, it was on strengthening the economy through human resource development and the mastery of broad-based technology to support growth.

Policy differences between the two groups of ministers had been "exaggerated by people who like to enlarge differences," he said.

However, nowhere during the interview did he attempt to deny the existence of the two groups. The technologists come from an essentially engineering background. A leading figure of the pro-technology group is Research and Technology Minister B.J. Habibie, a Germantrained aeronautics engineer.

Asked why the contrasting approaches to economic development seemed to have become a matter of controversy, Mr. Hartarto said: "Sometimes, people like to enlarge differences."

"We have very good cooperation," he said, when asked whether the differing views had affected macro-economic planning or could undermine investor confidence.

Mr. Hartarto suggested that despite the different strategies, macro-economic planning was still under control. As a result, the economy was stable and would grow by no less than 6.1 percent this year.

He agreed that further deregulation was needed to face the growing competition from China and Vietnam. Licensing procedures would be simplified soon to improve the efficiency of the economy and attract investments.

Differences in economic policy have emerged since a cabinet reshuffle in March reduced the long-standing influence of Berkeley- trained economists led by Prof. Wijoyo Nitisastro and Prof. Ali Wardhana, dubbed the "economic technocrats."

Mr. Hartarto himself is an engineer and advocate of economic growth supported by broad-based technological development. He has, however, been a long-serving minister for industry and as such is seen to have a good understanding of the thinking of the economic technocrats.

Laos

PASASON Discusses Cooperation in Drug Suppression

BK1308080993 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 10 Aug 93 p 3

[Talk: "Let Us Suppress Narcotic Drugs on the Basis of Mutual Trust"]

[Text] All countries in the world have paid close attention and attached great importance to resolving drug problems. However, the degrees of such importance may vary from one country to another. It is only natural that countries with few drug problems or none at all tend to pay less attention to this matter while those with intense problems are likely to attach greater importance to it.

In the past, countries with serious drug problems and which have attached greater importance to them have occasionally accused other countries of a lack of interest in solving these problems, thereby giving a wrong impression of the latter. The Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] has been frequently accused by certain countries with serious drugs problems of continuing to grow opium, being a drug-producing source. They have even said that drugs seized in other countries originated from Laos, Burma, and some other countries.

The LPDR understands very well that drug problems do not belong to any particular countries but involve all countries. Trafficking in opium or other drugs extracted from opium is considered an illegal activity. As a UN member and a signatory to the International Treaty on Narcotic Drugs and realizing the danger of narcotic drugs to mankind, in the past as well as in the present, the LPDR has consistently adopted various measures to stop opium growing and smoking, which are harmful to people's health and society, and to prevent opium from being trafficked to other foreign countries. We have placed special emphasis on the measure of encouraging upland people to move to the lowland to earn their living in a more simple and productive manner. In addition, the LPDR Government has also enacted many laws and legal measures to deal with drug problems. The Lao Government has made numerous efforts through various possible methods aimed at completely eradicating poppy growing from Laos.

The Lao Government has signed a cooperation agreement with the United Nations and the U.S. Government to plant substitute crops to replace the poppy. This is one of the measures which must be supported and expanded as soon as possible so opium growing can be gradually eliminated. A cooperation project signed between the LPDR and U.S. governments in promoting agricultural production in Houa Phan Province is also another measure aimed at helping upland people stop growing poppies in mountainous regions. Moreover, the Mountain Region Development Company run by the Lao Government is also an organization designed to carry out economic, social, and cultural development in

mountainous regions with the aim of bringing civilization to our people in remote and inaccessible areas and encouraging them to abandon poppy cultivation and move to the lowlands to grow other crops.

In addition to the aforementioned practical measures, our Lao Government has also cooperated with some international organizations and governments of other countries in organizing training programs for Lao authorities so as to improve their investigation and inspection techniques in searching for opium and narcotic drugs at various border crossing points.

All these measures clearly display the Lao Government's efforts in trying to prevent and eradicate poppy growing and in suppressing narcotic drugs production in Laos. The LPDR always remains sincere and firmly adheres to its status as a UN member and a signatory of the International Treaty on Narcotic Drugs, whose objective is to suppress opium growing and narcotic drugs production. Therefore, any accusations made by certain foreign media, especially the media in the Western countries, saying that poppies have been planted in Laos and that opium harvested here has been supplied to heroin production factories in the Golden Triangle with the connivance of some Lao leaders, are nothing but fabricated and untrue stories cooked up to unjustifiably slander the LPDR. Thus, in order to make progress along a correct direction, all countries should turn to one another in cooperating to find ways to solve drug problems on the basis of equality and mutual benefits and by refraining from slandering one another. International cooperation in the suppression of narcotic drugs should therefore be based on the principle of mutual trust and respect.

Oudomsai Drug Traffickers Given 5-Year Sentences

BK1208035693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] In late July the People's Court of Oudomsai Province gave verdicts for two offenders who were charged with heroin trafficking. The two offenders are Thao Eun, a resident of Thong Chai village; and Thao Thonglou, a resident of Thong Di village, Luang Namtha Province. They were sentenced to five years imprisonment each. The two offenders colluded in trafficking the narcotics and were found to have 1.2 kg of heroin in their possession. The two were arrested while engaging in drug trafficking by the public security forces of Oudomsai Province on 11 November 1992 and have been detained since. The provincial people's court passed the five year prison sentence for both offenders in accordance with Article 135 of the Criminal Law. They were also fined more than 200,000 kips each.

Oudomsai-PRC's Xishuangbanna Talks on Border

BK0708075993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] A delegation of the public security force of Xishuangbanna Region, Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China, paid a visit to Oudomsai Province last month. The delegations of Lao and Chinese public security forces held a consultative meeting during the visit and agreed to increase their cooperation in the control of travellers passing through border checkpoints of both Oudomsai Province and Xishuangbanna Region. This cooperation is aimed at ensuring the betterment of their operations.

The Oudomsai provincial public security force delegation was led by Liuetenant Colonel Thong Sai-gnati, standing member of the Oudomsai Province Party Committee and chief of the Police Command of Oudomsai Province. The Xishuangbanna Region delegation was led by Brigadier General (Xiao Tezhun), chief of the Xishuangbanna Region Police Command. They held talks and exchanged views and experiences with each other about carrying out their respective public security work.

The two delegations agreed to further cooperate in solving remaining problems concerning the tasks of national defense and peacekeeping along the border in order to facilitate the exchanges of visits and trade by the Lao and Chinese peoples. These practices are based on implementing the regulations and procedures laid out by authorities of each country.

In addition, both sides also discussed several issues relating to cooperation for public security work by each side. These include the problem of the Chinese Hmong refugees, who live in Laotian provinces bordering China, and cooperation to set up logistical units in the public security forces of Oudomsai Province and Xishuangbanna Region.

Trade Minister, Delegation Leave for PRC Visit

BK1008093393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Trade Minister Sompadit Volasan and his party left Vientiane for a visit to Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China, on the afternoon of 7 August.

While in China, the delegation will review with its Chinese counterpart progress of various businesses and thoroughly study the data relating to future bilateral trade cooperation. All this is aimed at promoting effort in this field to develop extensively as well as contributing to the further strengthening and enhancing the traditional friendly Lao-Chinese relations. The Lao trade delegation plans to visit China for one week.

The Lao delegation was seen off at the airport by Thongvan Phanlasavong, deputy trade minister; a number of high-ranking officials; and Huang Guocai, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PRC to Laos.

Pact With Thai District To Step Up Border Security

BK0808040093 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 7 Aug 93

[Text] Delegations from Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, and Ban Khok District, Uttaradit Province, Thailand, held a consultative meeting in Ban Khok District on 5 August. The two delegations discussed ways to jointly step up public security measures along the Lao-Thai common border in order to provide more convenience for the exchange of visits between the people of the two regions. The border peacekeeping cooperation is also aimed at enhancing efficiency in implementing the memorandum previously signed by the provincial governors of Sayaboury and Uttaradit, especially concerning relations, cooperation, and assistance between the two districts.

SRV Commercial Attache Views Economic Ties

BK1308055793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] The Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the SRV have maintained special relations for a long time. The two countries have given assistance to each other in many fields, thus bringing about good results in the promotion and expansion of bilateral relations. It has also led to economic development in each country. In the new stage, Lao-Vietnamese relations have been enhanced to a new level. Cooperation activities in various branches have been carried out in an ever more effective manner and in a way beneficial to both sides.

With regard to cooperation in the economic and cultural fields in particular in 1993, the Lao-Vietnamese and Vietnamese-Lao cooperation committees have unanimously agreed to cooperate in achieving 10 objectives, including the training and building of technical cadres in various fields; the exchange of technologies; the maintenance of public security along the border, and a solution to the immigration problem, the problems of Vietnamese labor, trade, aliens, and cooperation in building schools and universities in three provinces of Laos-Luang Prabang, Champassak, and Bolikhamsai provinces. Through the process of implementation in the past seven months, the sectors concerned of each country have sincerely cooperated in achieving the ten objectives. As of now, eight out of the ten objectives have been fulfilled. This is the fruit of the cooperation between the two sides, fruit which will lead to the economic development of each country on a long-term basis with mutual benefits.

(Nguyen Cong Tinh), on behalf of the SRV economic attache to Laos, has granted an interview to our reporter on Lao-Vietnamese cooperation in 1993. He said: Regarding the development of the cooperation activities between the two countries, the Vietnamese side has accepted more than 1,000 additional Lao students for further studies in the SRV in 1993. The two countries

have generally agreed to raise the quality of students. The Lao students must pass the competitive examinations first. Those selected students, after completing their courses of study, must be willing to work in the service of the country and to strengthen the special relations of friendship between the two countries. It is noted that at present the Lao students have paid more attention to studying. In the recent past we have organized Lao students to study three major subjects in Vietnam in relation to their backgrounds and capabilities.

Viewing the coming visit to the LPDR by the chairman of the SRV National Assembly, (Nguyen Cong Tinh) said: The coming visit to Laos by a delegation of the SRV National Assembly serves as a step to further promote and improve, to a new quality and in all aspects, the relations between between Laos and Vietnam.

Industry Minister Returns From Visit to Norway

BK1308031993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Soulivong Dalavong, minister of industry and handicrafts of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], held a meeting with Finn Kristensen, minister of industry and energy of Norway, in Oslo capital during a recent visit to Norway by a delegation of the Industry and Handicrafts Ministry of the LPDR. In the meeting, the two sides discussed and exchanged views on ways to improve the cooperation between the two countries in the industrial field in the immediate future. In particular, the two delegations exchanged views on hydropower and related issues. The Lao delegation also visited an electrical enterprise, a wood processing factory, and some places of historic significance in Norway.

Minister Soulivong Dalavong and the Lao Industry and Handicrafts Ministry delegation began the visit to the Kingdom of Norway on 1 August. He led the delegation on its return home on 9 August. This was the first visit by a Lao delegation to the Kingdom of Norway after the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1992. In the recent past, the Government of the Kingdom of Norway has granted gratis aid to the LPDR for carrying out socioeconomic development work. It has also given cooperation to the LPDR in building a number of electric power projects.

Philippines

Politicians Meet Iraqi Foreign Ministry Official

JN1308074993 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Senator Blas Ople, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Philippine Senate, has expressed his profound admiration of President leader Saddam Husayn's character. During a meeting with Sa'd 'Abdal-Majid al-Faysal, senior under secretary of the [Iraqi] Foreign Ministry and his delegation in Manila today, the

Philippine senator said that when he was labor minister he had the honor of meeting with President leader Saddam Husayn twice, which deeply impressed him.

Ople stressed his sympathy for the Iraqi people in confronting the unjust embargo. He pointed out that it is in the interest of all world states to lift the embargo as soon as possible.

On the day before yesterday, al-Faysal and his delegation met with Raul Manglapus, former Philippine foreign minister and head of the Philippine National Oil Company. They discussed the scope of economic relations in various fields, particularly oil.

MNI F Chief Reportedly Okays Formal Peace Talks

HK1308022093 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Nur Misuari, Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] chairman, has reportedly said yes to opening formal peace talks in Mindanao. Misuari has said he will send a representative to the opening ceremony anytime and anywhere in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao. The MNLF chairman was reportedly convinced by the Organization of Islamic Conference to review his position regarding the venue for negotiations. The opening ceremony is to be held before President Fidel V. Ramos leaves for Indonesia next month.

Ramos Okays Equity Infusion To Fund Power Plants

HK1308033093 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 13 Aug 93 p 9

[Report by Katherine R. Espina]

[Text] President Ramos has approved the release of P1 billion [Philippine pesos] government equity infusion to the National Power Corp. (Napocor) for this year, Energy Secretary Delfin Lazaro, Napocor chairman, said yesterday.

Last year, Napocor, with a net profit of P4.2 billion, was the country's second most profitable company, outranked only by the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT). That profit, however, does not seem enough to finance Napocor's capital requirements.

Lazaro said the infusion will be charged to a special fund of the Department of Energy (DOE). The fund, which now amounts to P1.5 billion, came from the royalties that have been paid by the oil companies since the 1970s. Next year, Lazaro said, Napocor would ask for an additional equity infusion of P880 million.

The capital investment requirement of Napocor next year is at P37.3 billion, P7.88 billion as the local portion

and \$1.05 billion as the foreign component. The Department of Budget Management (DBM), however, has yet to agree to the planned P1-billion equity infusion next year.

Lazaro said Napocor would have to float P3 billion in domestic bond issue to finance power projects next year. The domestic flotation is on top of the \$150-million Eurobond flotation to be conducted by Napocor in October. Due to lack of finances, Lazaro said the construction of transmission line projects will be offered to the private sector under a build-operate-transfer (BOT) scheme.

He said he would ask the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), Philippine National Bank (PNB), and Land Bank of the Philippines to come up with a BOT package for the private sector interested in undertaking transmission line projects.

Ramos Okays Petron Oil Privatization Strategy

HK1208134593 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] President Fidel Ramos has approved the privatization strategy for Petron Corporation, the largest oil company in the country. Based on the agreement, Petron shares of stock will be sold to the private investors but the government will retain 40 per cent of the shares. Out of the 60 per cent equity to be privatized, 40 per cent will be sold before the end of this year. The balance of 20 per cent will be sold early next year through the stock market and an employee stock option plan.

President Ramos decided that the government should retain 40 per cent of Petron so it can continue its role in the oil industry. Meanwhile, the president explained that his government will pursue a provision in a newly-approved Department of Energy law that calls for a deregulation program of the industry by 1996.

Ramos Orders Agencies To Help Fight Private Armies

HK0708073193 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos has ordered the Defense and Justice Departments to assist the Department of Interior and Local Government [DILG] in dissolving private armies all over the country. The president added that the support of the Department of National Defense and the Department of Justice is aimed at giving the Philippine National Police additional forces for combat, intelligence, investigation, and prosecution against private armies. Ramos gave DILG Secretary Rafael Alunan until 9 September to disband all private armies in the country.

Basilan Residents Want Habeas Corpus Suspended

HK1208133993 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Basilan's officials and residents today called on President Fidel Ramos to suspend the privilege of writ of habeas corpus to address the critical peace and order situation in the province. Basilan Governor Gerry Salappudin said the proposal can be considered a drastic action, but this is necessary because of the upsurge in criminality, particularly rebel kidnap-for-ransom activities which authorities have failed to stop. Salvador Memoracion, Basilan Regional Trial Court judge, said such drastic action is needed in the province to prevent kidnap-for-ransom groups from victimizing more people. Moracion said the Philippine National Police have failed to arrest the alleged kidnappers, who continue to roam Basilan in search of victims. The suspension of the writ of habeas corpus in Basilan is supported by members of the provincial Peace and Order Council.

Government Releases Militant Peasant Leader

HK0708072993 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] The government has released Jaime Tadeo, chairman of the Peasant Farmers' Movement of the Philippines, from the Muntinlupa Penitentiary after being imprisoned for swindling. Tadeo was sentenced to four to 18 years imprisonment. Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said the move is part of the Ramos administration's confidence measures in the peace process. Meanwhile, Tadeo told DWIZ that he will continue the struggle to defend small farmers.

Thailand

Cambodia's Ranariddh, Hun Sen Arrive 12 Aug

BK1208145993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1300 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, copremiers of the national government of Cambodia, and their wives arrived at 1500 today at the Royal Thai Force Headquarters airport aboard a special aircraft for an official visit to Thailand as guests of the Thai Government. They were welcomed by Deputy Defense Minister Major General Sombat Rotphothong and other Thai officials. Many Thai and foreign journalists were at the airport to cover the arrival.

Before the copremiers of the national government of Cambodia left for their residence at the Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel, Prince Norodom Ranariddh spoke with reporters about the purpose of his visit. He said problems along the Thai-Cambodian border and other issues, including the Khmer Rouge problem, will be discussed

with Thai leaders. He believes the outcome of the discussions will benefit relations between the two countries.

Tomorrow, the cochairmen of the national government of Cambodia and their wives will go to Government House to meet Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and participate in their formal reception.

Meanwhile, General Tie Banh, deputy prime minister and defense minister, spoke with reporters about the visit of the copremiers of the national government of Cambodia. He said at this time he could not say what topics will be discussed with the Thai leader, but he is confident that the outcome will benefit both countries. Asked if the Khmer Rouge issue will be discussed, Tie Banh said the Khmer Rouge issue must be discussed with the Khmer Rouge, not here with him.

Medical Supplies Donated to Cambodia

BK1308071093 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] According to the Foreign Ministry, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, on behalf of the Thai Government, donated medical supplies worth 4.5 million baht for the Cambodian Government and people through Prince Norodom Sirivut, his Cambodian counterpart. This was on the occasion of the 12-15 August official visit to Thailand of the co-prime ministers of Cambodia and the Cambodian foreign minister at the invitation of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai. The donation took place at Government House today. It represented part of the 20-million baht economic and technical assistance from the Thai Government's 1992 budget. The supplies consisted of various types of medicine, such as antibiotics, medicines for heart and ulcer problems, and multivitamins.

Joint Naval Exercise With Malaysia Ends

BK1208031593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Aug 93 p 3

[Text] Malaysia has proposed that the next joint naval exercise between the Royal Thai Navy [RTN] and the Malaysian Navy should be conducted farther out from the Gulf of Thailand and closer to the South China Sea.

Malaysian Fleet Commander R-Adm [Rear Admiral] Datuk Yaacob who led five Malaysian ships in the 10th Thalay Laut combined naval exercise with three Royal Thai Navy ships in the Gulf of Thailand from August 5-10 said the two navies should conduct more exercises and that the location should be changed to acquire new experience.

R-Adm Yaacob said the latest joint exercise was successful and that he looked ahead to more exercises in the future in the South China Sea.

Malaysia has recently expressed concern about military expansion by a regional power in the Spratly Islands,

which is located in the South China Sea. Several countries, including China, Vietnam, the Philippines and Malaysia, have claimed territorial integrity over the island group which is reportedly rich in minerals.

Thailand's Royal Fleet Chief-of-Staff V-Adm [Vice Admiral] Chaiyachit Ratanaphon said the Thai Navy has never held a naval exercise in the South China Sea or anywhere outside of the Gulf of Thailand.

He said that if the proposal for a joint naval exercise in the South China Sea was accepted by the Thai military, then such activity would be conducted far from the Spratly Islands.

"We won't conduct an exercise (with the Malaysians) that close to the Spratly Islands," he said.

V-Adm Chaiyachit said the RTN would also like to participate in an exercise in the South China Sea and confirmed that such activity would not cause any problems with other countries in dispute over the Spratlys.

Saudi Charge Calls on Justice Minister 11 Aug BK1208071793 Bangkok SIAM POST in Thai 12 Aug 93 p 2

[Excerpt] [passage omitted on postponement of court hearing on Saudi jewel theft] Saudi Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Khujah called on Justice Minister Suwit Khunkitti at the Justice Ministry on 11 August. Speaking with newsmen afterward, Suwit said the Saudi charge brought him flowers on the occasion of his return to the same post in Thailand. The Saudi official's visit had nothing to do with the trial of the Saudi jewelry theft case. He and the visitor did not discuss the press report and photograph of the wife of a senior Thai police officer wearing jewelry which looked like the stolen Saudi jewelry. Suwit said they talked about the expected improvement in Thai-Saudi relations and about bilateral relations during the term of former Foreign Minister Athit Urairat, when many problems were solved. They felt it was a pity that Athit's term was not longer.

Foreign Minister Meets SAARC Secretary General

BK1208014493 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] The secretary general of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, SAARC, recently called on the Thai foreign minister, Prasong Sunsiri, to discuss cooperation with Thailand and ASEAN members.

SARC comprises seven countries—India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Pakistan, and Maldives. Minister Prasong said that the South Asian countries jointly formed their association in the same manner as ASEAN. It seeks cooperation with ASEAN countries in various fields. As Thailand will take over the chairmanship of the ASEAN Standing Committee this year, South Asian countries hope to enhance cooperation with ASEAN and

with Thailand in particular. Minister Prasong said the South Asian group is now keen on development of telecommunications services.

Torture of Foreign Prisoners Denied

BK1208032993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Aug 93 p 3

[Text] The Interior Ministry yesterday denied categorically that foreign prisoners were tortured in Thai jails, claiming all prisoners were treated in accordance with the United Nations Charter on Human Rights.

Deputy Interior Minister Suthat Ngoenmuen and Corrections Department Director General Lt-Col [Lieutenant-Colonel] Kamon Prachuapmo dismissed all charges made by former Malaysian journalist Elizabeth Barnabas.

Ms Barnabas claims she received a letter from foreign prisoners complaining of cruel treatment, torture, beatings, extortion and being forced to have sex with fellow inmates in Thai prisons.

Mr Suthat said the Corrections Department treated all 2,000 foreign prisoners, most of them serving sentences for drug offences, the same as it treated Thai prisoners. There is no torture or beatings of prisoners and the department insisted it followed human rights principles and the UN Charter on Human Rights.

The minister said he had received a similar appeal from human rights activist Khothom Araya and had ordered an investigation but Ms Barnabas had made public her charges before he could state the findings.

Lt-Col Kamon said he was ready to allow reporters and Ms Barnabas to inspect prison conditions.

Ms Barnabas in the past has participated in Corrections Department seminars and has visited some prisons where she interviewed foreign prisoners.

She also tried to have some of them released on probation but no one was willing to act as their guarantor, including their respective embassies, said the directorgeneral.

Lt-Col Kamon said Ms Barnabas may have written the letters herself because "we checked and no prisoners were willing to admit they had written to her."

The director-general admitted that sometimes boxing matches were held in prison 90 prisoners who repeatedly engage in arguments and fights could vent their anger.

[Bangkok THE NATION in English on 12 August, in a report on page A2, adds: "The number of prisoners on death row in Bang Khwang prison has more than doubled since the beginning of this year with foreigners making up a large proportion of the increase, according to Lt Col Kamon Prachuapmo, the director general of the Department of Corrections.

["He said yesterday the number of prisoners sentenced to death had risen by 118 to 217 in eight months.

["Kamon said most had been convicted of murder and drug trafficking. Sixty of them were foreigners, mostly Nigerians.

["The death sentence has not been carried out for four years because prisoners have received a Royal amnesty from His Majesty the King on various traditional days.

["The prisoners given the death penalty have had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment and then to 50 years in any subsequent amnesty.

["Kamon said one disturbing statistic was that the number of prisoners around the country had increased rapidly. He said there were around 89,000 inmates nationwide. About 13 per cent were habitual criminals."]

Vietnam

Radio Comments on U.S. MIA's, Trade Relations

BK1208152093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The entire Vietnamese population is cooperating with the government in solving the MIA issue and positive results have been achieved. Twenty-seven sets of remains have been handed over to the Vietnamese Government by local people. These efforts have been welcomed and highly valued by U.S. representatives.

Early this week, the Vietnamese office searching for missing people once again called on all organizations and people from all walks of life to continue their efforts in searching for and providing information concerning the American servicemen missing in action and to hand over to the local authorities all remains of American GIs.

The appeal further noted that if the remains are identified as Americans after undergoing scientific analysis, there would be reasonable compensation for the assistance. This news is further (?promoting) the search for American personnel missing in action and speeding up the settlement of this humanitarian issue.

Meanwhile, according to the regulations of Washington, the U.S. Administration, next month, will reconsider the efficiency of its trade embargo against Vietnam. Whether the White House should abolish its embargo against Vietnam is still not clear, and American companies are anxiously looking forward to the answer to this question. They hope that soon the White House will give the green light for them to do business with Vietnam.

In its recent issue, THE WASHINGTON POST reported that the American companies ranked Vietnam fourth in

its priority list of investment in Asian countries. But Vietnam is ranked first by oil and gas companies in their priority list of investment.

In general, American companies share the same view that companies from other countries have won all the good contracts and set up a firm foot in Vietnam's market as they are not prevented from doing business with Vietnam. Many U.S. companies say they cannot ignore the long-term potential in Vietnam and they cannot continue to sit with arms folded.

The researchers from Honolulu [words indistinct] declare that despite the U.S. embargo, American companies continue going to Vietnam to prepare trade relations with this country. This is a correct decision. But if the embargo is lifted, American business activities in Vietnam will accelerate and become effective.

Hanoi Notes Agenda of Visiting U.S. Congressmen

BK1208144093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] A 30-member delegation of the U.S. Congress arrives in Hanoi on Thursday to evaluate Vietnam economic reform and conduct research on opportunities of investing in Vietnam once the trade embargo is lifted. This is the biggest American Congress delegation to Vietnam. It comprises 11 law makers and is headed by Mr. Sam Gibbons, chairman of the trade subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives.

During its stay here, the delegation is expected to meet with Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, and Chairman of the State Planning Committee Do Quoc Sam.

Six Vietnamese Massacred in Cambodia; KR Blamed

BK1308052493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Six Vietnamese people were recently killed in a fishing village near Tonle Sap of Kompong Chhnang Province in Cambodia. The victims were one man 63 years old, two women 72 and 36 years old, two boys 17 and 15 years old, and a girl 13 years old. According to a Cambodian local newspaper, the Cambodian Government suspects that the Khmer Rouge are the culprits in this massacre.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Killings

BK1208154993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] The spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry has just released a communique that reads:

According to foreign sources, during the night of 10 August, an armed group of Khmer Rouge soldiers massacred six Cambodian people of Vietnamese origin, including four males and two females, who belong to two fishing families living in Tonle Sap in the area of Kompong Chhnang Province. These people were killed in their homes.

The massacre happened in concurrence with other Khmer Rouge activities aimed at causing disorder in Cambodia. It was also in tune with their explicit propaganda to provoke violations against Vietnamese residents in Cambodia in defiance of United Nations warnings, as stated in a letter by Mr. Akashi to Khieu Samphan dated 5 August 1993.

The Vietnamese Government and people strongly condemn this savage act of the Khmer Rouge and demand that they immediately stop their cruel terrorist actions and their provocation campaign to instigate violence against Vietnamese residents in Cambodia.

Vietnam urgently requests that the Cambodian provisional people's government and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia take strong action to stay the Khmer Rouge's bloody hands and to create favorable conditions for Vietnamese residents, who have been living and working for generations in Cambodia, to carry on their normal lives. This should be guaranteed as with other residents in Cambodia.

Vietnam also cordially urges the international community to strongly condemn Khmer Rouge acts of racial discrimination, which fiercely violate human rights, and demand that the Khmer Rouge abide by the provisions of the International Convention of Human Rights.

Paper Views Friendship, Cooperation With ASEAN

BK1308071793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Article by Phuong Ha from the Sunday 15 August issue of NHAN DAN: "Vietnam-ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] Cooperative Ties"]

[Text] Speaking at a reception for our country's ambassador to Singapore, President Wee Kim Wee pointed out: Singapore wishes to develop its ties with Vietnam and is convinced that the friendship and cooperation between the two countries in all fields will contribute to consolidating and strengthening peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The same aspirations have also been shared by other ASEAN member countries.

ASEAN came into existence in 1967 and now comprises six members, namely, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore. Being situated in Southeast Asia and sharing many historical and cultural similarities, Vietnam and ASEAN member countries have had relations for a long time now. Over the past several years, especially since the reunification of the

Vietnamese fatherland, Vietnam and ASEAN member countries have promoted relations based on the Indochinese countries' proposal to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation, as well as on ASEAN policy aimed at bringing about peace, freedom, and neutrality in that part of the world.

Afterward, thanks to the favorable conditions created by settlement of the Cambodian issue, Vietnam and ASEAN member countries have quickly developed their economic and trade ties. In 1992 the volume of trade exchanges with Malaysia reached \$100 million compared with \$20 million in 1985; with Indonesia, \$220 million compared with \$34 million in 1986; with Thailand, \$158 million compared with more than \$10 million in 1988; with Singapore, \$1.2 billion compared with \$60 million in 1987; and with the Philippines, \$50 million compared with \$12 million in 1988.

The following is a breakdown of ASEAN investment in Vietnam by mid-April 1993: Singapore has 35 projects with investment capital of \$167 million. Indonesia has eight projects with investment capital of \$102.6 million. Malaysia has 16 projects with investment capital of \$95 million. Thailand has 33 projects with investment capital of \$43 million. Compared with the period ending in late 1990, on the average ASEAN investment capital in Vietnam has increased tenfold and now accounts for 10 percent of the total volume of foreign investment in Vietnam. Altogether, 30 cooperation agreements in economic, scientific, technical, trade, payment and credit, aviation, maritime navigation, and other domains have been signed.

In late July of this year, Vietnam's State Commission for Cooperation and Investment signed a cooperation agreement with the Primary Company of the Brunei Royalty. Under the agreement, Primary will invest in a number of major projects in our country. This is not to mention tens of joint business ventures which are expected to bring about fine results.

Between late 1991 and early 1992, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet paid an official friendship visit to six ASEAN member countries, providing them with better knowledge of Vietnam's comprehensive renovation work. During their visits to Vietnam, state, government, and National Assembly leaders of friendly countries have sympathized with our difficult situation and asserted their willingness to share their development experiences with our people. In this connection, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai pledged to create every condition for Thailand and Vietnam to promote cooperation in many domains. Over the first six months of this year, Vietnam and ASEAN member countries have continued to exchange delegations to boost economic, scientific, technological, cultural, and educational cooperation, thus helping improve mutual understanding and trust. President Fidel Ramos emphatically told National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh that the Philippines is a

friend of Vietnam and that it is his hope that the two countries will further develop their friendly and cooperative ties.

The aforementioned sentiments reflect the common aspirations of ASEAN leaders and peoples. Vietnam-ASEAN bilateral and multilateral cooperation has constantly been consolidated. In that connection, at the recent ASEAN foreign ministerial summit in Singapore, ASEAN member countries highly valued the achievements of Vietnam's renovation undertaking and welcomed Vietnam's participation in the regional forum as an important counterpart.

In keeping with rapid change in the Asia-Pacific region, Vietnam-ASEAN relations are entering a new stage of development and are contributing to bringing about new developments in Southeast Asia. Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed once said that he was very pleased to help with and contribute to economic recovery in Indochinese countries, being convinced that if Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam achieve stability and development, maintain close relations with ASEAN, and better still, become ASEAN member countries, they will contribute to peace, stability, and prosperity in the entire region.

Ministry of Justice Delegation Visits Malaysia BK1308064393 Hanoi VNA in English 0618 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 13—A delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Justice led by Minister of Justice Nguyen Dinh Loc paid an official visit to Malaysia at the invitation of Malaysian Minister of Law and Minister Premier Datu Syed Hamid bin Tan Sri Syed Jaafar Albar, from July 25 to August 1.

The delegation had working sessions with the Ministry of Law, the High Court of Justice, and the Institute of General Prosecution. The two sides exchanged views and experiences in legal activities in service of socioeconomic developments. The Malaysian side highly appreciated the achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in the renovation process.

Minister Nguyen Dinh Loc and Minister Datu Syed Hamid bin Tan Sri Syed Jaafar Albar discussed how to develop cooperation between the two countries, especially in personnel training in jurisprudence and the juridical proceedings.

While there the delegation toured a number of local courts of justice, the Law company and the Kajing prison.

Radio Notes Thai Assistance to Newspaper BK1208151093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Mr. Nguyen Cong Truyen, director of the VIETNAM NEWS, and Mr. (Tavibu), director of the

Bangkok-based Manager Company have signed a 10year cooperation contract which will provide resources, equipment, and training for VIETNAM NEWS, the country's only daily English-language paper.

The Manager Company Ltd is a private company in Thailand specializing in printing and distributing newspapers and books and service supplying in Southeast Asia.

EC Refugee Reintegration Program Viewed

BK1008125993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Aug 93

[Unattributed article]

[Summary] "The EC International Program for Reintegration of Vietnamese Returnees has been successfully implemented in 21 of our country's provinces over the last two years. Together with our national renovation achievements, the number of Vietnamese returnees has gradually increased over the years with 916 persons in 1989, more than 6,000 in 1990, more than 12,000 in 1991, and 16,952 in 1992. In the first four months of 1993, 4,569 people returned to Vietnam. As of 30 June 1993, 43,064 refugees have returned. The great and efficient contribution of the EC International Program for Reintegration of Vietnamese Returnees has helped attain this figure.

"In addition to the \$2.5 million for 51 small infrastructure upgrading projects in different localities such as the building of bridges, roads, water facilities, schools, medical centers, and so forth, the EC program has also provided financial aid to 76 vocational training centers for the training of 54 different skills. Returnees receive free training in these centers. Activities to improve the medical service have also been implemented in the central provinces and in the eastern and western provinces of South Vietnam with funds of nearly \$1 million.

"However, the credit lending program is still one of the most important activities. After 22 months of operation since September 1991, the program, through the Agriculture Bank and Industrial and Trading Bank, has provided 15,437 loans of more than \$15 million. Of this, 55 percent of the loans or about \$8.3 million have been given to the returnees for them to set up medium and small businesses, which will in turn create jobs, increase income, and help them resettle.

"Recently, an international delegation representing contributing countries to the EC program conducted an evaluation of the program. It has suggested that, first, all loan conditions be eased for borrowers. Second, it said more suitable regulations should be set up in granting small loans to returnees. These changes have been applied since 1 July 1993 to meet the returnees' demands."

A Vietnam radio correspondent interviewed Mr. (Ian Francis) about improvements in loan conditions for

Vietnamese returnees. In the interview Mr. (Francis) said that previously it was necessary to ask applicants to meet all banking conditions. They must also demonstrate that they can create new jobs and provide 50 percent of the jobs to returnees. This was very difficult for the loan applicants because they must look for returnees who will agree to work for them. Now that condition has been dropped.

He also explained new regulations for loans of less than \$300 and gave his appraisal of the positive cooperation of Vietnamese banks in implementing the EC program.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Uruguay 11 Aug

BK1208142393 Hanoi VNA in English 1414 GMT 12 Aug 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 12—Vietnam and Uruguay began their diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level on Wednesday, August 11, 1993.

This comes in a joint communique signed in New York the same day by Ambassador Le Van Bang, acting head of the Vietnamese mission to the United Nations and Uruguayan Ambassador to United Nations Ramiro Piriz Ballon.

2 Army Ships Transported Illegal Chinese Goods

BK1308060493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] According to THUONG MAI (COMMERCE) Magazine, a relatively great number of transport ships carrying Chinese goods recently arrived at the mouth of Dien Dien River in Thai Thuy District, Thai Binh Province. Some ships, which belong to the armed forces, have taken part in the illegal transportation of goods. The Market Control Force discovered that a ship with registration number 14-12-06 of the Military Region Three and another one with registration number 14-12-17 of the Thai Binh Province Military Command carried many illegally imported goods. A government inspection team, in one of its working sessions in Thai Binh Province, suggested that the Ministry of National Defense apply tight measures and correctly deal with those two ships, which illegally transported foreign goods.

Essay on Religious Policy, Implementation in Army

BK1208132793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Essay by station editor Vu Dinh Vinh from the "Topical Talks" feature: "Issues relating to the religious policy and observation of the party and state's religious policy by the People's Armed Forces"]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends: Religion is a social, cultural, and moral phenomenon. It belongs in the

people's spiritual life. In the current world, there are billions of people following different religions and faiths. In Vietnam there are millions of religious followers. Because of its geographical and historical characteristics, the makeup of religion in Vietnam is a colorful, profound, diversified, and complicated one in which there are many main religions, such as Buddhism, Catholicism, Protestantism, Islam, Cao Daism, and Hoa Haoism. Every religion has its own characteristics, faith, and teachings with a different process of formation, existence, and development. It has a separate role in the national history and it is influenced by political, economic, and social conditions at a certain point of national and international history.

Generally speaking, Vietnamese religions have the following fundamental characteristics:

- 1. Beliefs and religions are extensively popular in Vietnam but they remain mostly at the psychological level. For most Vietnamese people, religion is mainly regarded as emotional idealism and is an inherited faith.

 2. All main religions which have great influence on
- Vietnamese society came from other countries, and have been modified more or less by the Vietnamese people.
- 3. In essence, there is peaceful coexistence between different religions in Vietnam.
- 4. Together with the emergence and development of religions, superstition and religious habits exist widely in different localities. There are people hiding behind religious faith to deceive and exploit the trust of other people. They are causing no small amount of damage.

It is possible to say that religions were formed and developed in Vietnam while the country was encountering a fierce class struggle and a long fight for national independence and protection. Therefore, religions cannot be separated and placed away from politics.

In recent years, the religious situation in Vietnam has been through many great and complicated changes. At present, the national socioeconomic difficulty, the multifaceted influence of the international situation, and the sabotage by imperialist and reactionary forces through their peaceful evolution strategy have made religious activities more diversified and complicated.

In the progress of the Vietnamese revolution, our party and state's policy consistently respects freedom of religion and clearly differentiates religion from superstition. We have constructed a broad national unity of people from different religions to create great national strength in the fight against foreign invasion and for national construction and protection.

At present, however, with the changes in our revolutionary duty and the religious situation, as well as implementation of the religious policy in the new situation, we need to have new apprehension on religions and the religious policy. The new policy is a system of leading conception, reflecting the new thinking on religions in socialism and a new evaluation of the current religious situation in our country. It is also a direction which is to be concretized and institutionalized into guidelines and laws to ensure the integration of the party's religious policy into life, meeting the aspiration and sentiment of religious followers and the entire people, and creating new strength in the party's mass mobilization work.

Our party and state's current religious policy is aimed at developing the tradition of national unity for the successful implementation of the national construction and protection undertaking in the new stage. It is based on the principle that religions exist in the new regime as a special element of the socialist upper structure. It is also based on the current situation of different religions' relations with politics and the party and state's religious affairs work.

Therefore, the National Development Strategy in the Transitional Period to Socialism affirms that religion is a spiritual demand of one part of the public. It calls for consistent implementation of a policy to respect and ensure freedom of speech. It opposes all violations of freedom of religion, and at the same time opposes the exploitation of religion to cause damage to the nation and people's interests.

Our 1992 Constitution institutionalizes the aforementioned idea in Article 70 of Chapter 5. It stipulates: "Citizens have the freedom to believe or not believe in a religious faith. All religions are equal before the law. Places of worship of all faiths are protected by law. No one can violate the freedom of faith or exploit it in a way that is at variance with the law and state policies." Those are the principles of the party and state's religious policy. It is a foundation for all their concrete policies on religion.

Through that, we see that the party and state's current religious policy both manifests its consistency in principle and reflects the renovation of the party and state's viewpoint on religions and religious affairs work. It creates favorable conditions for religious followers to enjoy their faith and life. They can be free both to care for their spiritual life according to their religious practices and actively contribute to the undertaking of socialist construction and protection of the socialist fatherland.

At the same time, the party and state's religious policy on the one hand opposes violation of the freedom of religion, and on the other hand heightens the public's vigilance to prevent actively and deal determinedly with all actions that exploit religion to damage the nation and people's interests and the party and state's policies.

The exploitation of religions to undermine the revolution is a trick of international and national reactionary forces. Hierarchy, clergymen, and followers of each religion are not to allow bad people to exploit their faith and lead them to wrongful acts against their fatherland and compatriots. Every religious believer must contribute his share both to protect the purity of his faith, the sacredness of his religion, and to fulfill his responsibility to the nation as a citizen and religious believer. Dear comrades and friends, satisfactorily fulfilling religious affairs work is the responsibility of the entire political system, led by the party. The People's Armed Forces are a component of that political system. They definitely have a responsibility to implement religious affairs work.

So far, our armed forces have positively observed the party and state's religious policy. Nowadays, in the new situation, the party's policy carries some developing steps in accordance with the renovation. The party empowers the armed forces to perform religious work as a regular duty. Directive No. 66 of the Party Central Committee Secretariat, dated 26 October 1990, clearly states: "The armed forces must satisfactorily carry out their work to educate youths in the forces who are religious believers. The armed forces must also satisfactorily conduct public liaison work in areas with religious followers."

With that requirement, the armed forces must carry out religious affairs work in a new field. At present, our armed forces consist of a contingent of officers, soldiers, and military workers who come from different social classes, ethnic groups, and religions within a united country with different economic elements in a complicated social class structure. In that situation, our armed forces still have to ensure unanimity in politics and mentality, a top factor in their combat strength.

While giving priority to politics in the armed forces, leaders and commanders at all levels in the armed forces, especially military units at the grass roots, must pay attention to soldiers' sentimental lives and provide them with political education, especially to ethnic and religious soldiers. All stipulations of the Constitution and law with respect to religion must be strictly implemented in all Army units which have religious soldiers. And this must be done in conformity with the special conditions of the units.

One very necessary thing is that the People's Armed Forces must perform mass motivation work well in areas with religious people. In those areas, work must be done with a full knowledge of the religious policy, while rallying the public to implement all party and state lines and policies. Cadres and soldiers must respect the freedom of religion and not intervene with the religion of religious believers.

At the same time, they must motivate the public to conform to their obligations as citizens, execute their right to mastery, and exercise the right to egalitarianism before the law. They are to encourage the local people to partake actively and positively in the comprehensive national renovation by offering their talents and energy for the socioeconomic development in order to improve their own life, their families, and local prosperity.

With their influence and by various forms, military units must help to consolidate and develop the local mass organizations and encourage the public to be involved in widespread political, artistic, and sporting activities. By developing their strong points, the units should help the local authorities and military organs in military and security planning. They should assist them in consolidating and developing the militia force, with the participation of everyone, to protect local order and security.

The maintenance of political stability is a very important factor to develop the national socioeconomy. We already knew that areas inhabited by religious followers are often chosen by national and international reactionaries to infiltrate and exploit contradictions between religious believers and non-believers—between religions and communism—and to provoke actions for instability and subversion. Military units deployed in those areas must help to build local political institutions, enhance everyone's vigilance, stop infiltration by outside enemies, and discover covert sabotage activities. They must help maintain local political stability and ensure a peaceful, happy life for religious believers.

From reality, we understand that expecting the worst is a requirement for Army units to carry out their duty of fighting for the protection of the country and the socialist regime. They must outline measures to deal with this situation. When an incident occurs, first of all, they must determine its correct nature. When dealing with the case in principle, for people with a religion or without one, in any incident we must use persuasion as a fundamental measure. When there is involvement by bad people, we must divide and isolate the opposition, point out their crime, and strictly punish their leaders and instigators according to the law. We must make the public correctly realize the situation and support our measures in dealing with the case.

Dear comrades and friends, I have presented issues relating to the religious policy and the observation of the party and state's religious policy by the People's Armed Forces. I invite your comrade and friends to read the book "Some Knowledge on Religions and Religion in Vietnam" compiled by the General Political Department and published recently by the Quan Doi Nhan Dan Publishing House. From the book, we will thoroughly understand our party and state's viewpoint and policy on religions, which will further enhance the responsibility of the entire party and people as well as the armed forces in consistently implementing this very important policy.

National Assembly Budget Committee Meets Newsmen

BK1208083593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] The National Assembly's Economics and Budget Committee held a meeting in Hanoi on 10 August with representatives of party papers at the central level and a number of correspondents specializing in economic issues. The meeting was to establish relations with the mass media, which will help promote the role of the committee as an agency within the National Assembly.

Mr. Mai Thuc Lan, chairman of the National Assembly Economic and Budget Committee, said he would like to request participation by the papers in such areas as contributing suggestions, analyzing the socioeconomic situation, and providing the committee with information and documents available to the papers on economic policies and measures. The press was also asked to assist in mobilizing and educating people to implement the economic laws and regulations as well as National Assembly resolutions, particularly those relating to socioeconomic policies and measures.

Cooperation between the committee and the press was arranged in the form of biannual meetings between the committee standing members and economic commentators from all the papers. At these meetings, information and documents relating to the committee's area of responsibility will be exchanged, and the correspondents will be invited to join National Assembly inspection delegations or to attend the committee's meetings.

Nong Duc Manh Visits Ho Chi Minh City Districts

BK1208113593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] On 10 August National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh paid a working visit to the party committee, the people's council, and the people's committee of Tan Binh District, Ho Chi Minh City. Ms. Le Thi Van, chairwoman of Tan Binh People's Committee, briefed the National Assembly chairman on the district's socioeconomic situation. She pointed out that in 1992 total investment and production capital for the district reached 49.7 billion dong. The figure was 42 billion in the first six months of this year. In recent years many residential areas have been built, with many houses being sold to working people on an installment repayment basis. About 100 houses were built and allocated to war veterans and families of fallen heroes. A number of funds were raised, totalling about 1 billion dong: namely, a fund to help war veterans and families of war heroes, a mutual assistance fund, and a fund to help eliminate hunger and reduce poverty.

Comrade Nong Duc Manh praised the cadres and people of Tan Binh for their achievements, especially the achievements in expanding production and caring for the welfare of local people. Comrade Nong Duc Manh also reminded the party committee, the people's council, and the people's committee that all activities of the district authorities must aim to be by the people, for the people, and for the purpose of a prosperous people, a steadfast state, and an advanced society.

In the afternoon, Comrade Nong Duc Manh visited and held a working session with the Ninth Ward of Phu Nhuan District.

Receives Tuyen Quang Delegation

BK1208131393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] On 11 August in Hanoi, Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly, received a delegation of the People's Council of Tuyen Quang Province.

Comrade Vu Tiep, head of the delegation, reported to the chairman on the current activities of people's councils at all levels, especially the Tuyen Quang provincial people's council for the office term of 1989-94.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh praised the party committee and people of all ethnicities in Tuyen Quang Province for their preliminary achievements. The chairman also praised the elected people's representatives and councils of Tuyen Quang for their effective activities, which were improved significantly compared with the formalistic activities of previous councils. The chairman took note of the councils' outstanding work inspecting and supervising the collection of taxes and fees for the national budget, and the positive trend of the councils becoming more and more active in their inspection and supervision responsibilities.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh reminded the representatives that in its socioeconomic development process, Tuyen Quang should pay special attention to agricultural and forestry development and to maximizing the potential of a mountainous province in order to be worthy of being the cradle of the August Revolution.

Government Plans To Develop Eastern Nam Bo BK1308065593 Hanoi VNA in English 0602 GMT 13 Aug 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 13—The government held in Ho Chi Minh City on August 9-10 a conference to discuss the plan for socio-economic development in the years 1994-95 in the eastern provinces of south Vietnam proper.

It was attended by the party secretaries and chairmen of the people's committees of the provinces and cities concerned.

Speaking on this occcasion, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet brought out the important position of eastern Nam Bo as an agricultural, industrial, commercial, scientific and technical centre and a national hub of international exchange.

Industrial production is the bigget asset of the region. Average industrial growth rate in the past three years was 23 percent compared to 10.6 per cent nationwide. Industrial value accounts for one half of the country's total.

Another strength of eastern Nam Bo is the perennial industrial crops such as rubber (175,000 hectares), cashews (53,000 ha), coffee (165,000 ha), and pepper (5,000 ha).

In the past three years, this region has drawn 429 investment projects capitalized at 1.12 billion US dollars, 12 percent of the projects have investment capital of more than 10 million US dollars. The government conference called for maximum exploitation of the region's advantages, especially in industry and services through joint venture with foreigners.



